

MASSACHUSETTS PLOUGHMAN



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Correspondence from practical farmers, giving the results of their experience, is solicited. Letters should be signed with the writer's name in full, which will be printed or not, as the writer may wish.
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The Danger of the Gypsy Moth.

An article has appeared recently in one of our popular magazines, which states that the gypsy moth has been practically exterminated. I regret to say that this assertion is far from the truth. The gypsy moth is still a terrible pest, and, unless desperate means are taken to reduce its numbers, the State of Massachusetts, and in time, this whole continent, will suffer severe losses of fruit and shade trees. To show what a serious pest this is I will give a few figures.

Suppose every egg laid by a single pair of gypsy moths should hatch, taking an average of five hundred eggs per pair, the next season we should have 250 pair of caterpillars. "Pooh! What harm will five hundred caterpillars do to the foliage?" people will say. Well, if every one of these 250 pair lay five hundred eggs, and if all these hatch out, the next season there will be 125,000 caterpillars, or 62,500 pair. This number would not do any noticeable harm, save to strip a dozen trees or so, but carefully carrying out this figuring, we find that, provided each egg hatches out, and all the caterpillars live to maturity, a single pair of caterpillars, in ten years, would amount to 1,907,348,632,812,500,000,000,000 caterpillars. Nobody could begin to count this number in a life time, may even to imagine such an incredible number.

It is evident that five hundred thousand gypsy caterpillars could strip an acre of the thickest woodland in a season; therefore, 1,907,348,632,812,500,000,000,000 caterpillars could strip 3,814,697,265,625,000,000 acres, or 5,960,464,477,539,062 square miles, a territory over 1,654,000,000 times as large as the United States, including Alaska.

Now, let us suppose that each caterpillar is one inch long, and one-eighth of an inch in diameter (the minimum size), then each will cover one-eighth of a square inch of ground. Now suppose these 1,907,348,632,812,500,000,000,000 caterpillars are placed side by side, as close as they can get, and we find that there is a black carpet of caterpillars one-eighth of an inch thick and covering 59,389,512,206,374 square miles of land, a space over sixteen million times as large as the United States, and over five million times as great as North America.

Now let us see how the gypsy moths will multiply if we consider that there are four hundred eggs to a cluster (the average number), and that fifty per cent. of the eggs either do not hatch out at all, or do not develop to maturity. As the gypsy moths have no natural enemies in this country, it would not be possible for more than fifty per cent. to die each year. At this rate there would be 400,000,000,000,000,000 caterpillars at the end of ten years, which would make a solid carpet one-eighth of an inch thick over 12,692,000,000 square miles. The area of United States and Alaska is only 3,602,990 square miles. Imagine what a terrible sight this would be. Every step one took he would crush over two hundred caterpillars. There would not be a green leaf nor a blade of grass on the continent. The cattle would die of starvation, and we should have to abandon the continent or starve. Every tree would be black with caterpillars, and they would drop from their threads upon our umbrellas, as we walked across the street on a cool, sunny day. Our houses would be so full of caterpillars that we should gladly vacate them if we could find a place to which we might retreat.

The above figures merely illustrate what a serious pest this might become if allowed to increase unchecked by natural causes or by its enemies. Every citizen in the infested region should do his share toward reducing the numbers of this insect.

In the summer of 1905 it became a custom in a certain town in the infested district for the most cultivated women to go forth day after day to fight this pest. One house in the town was covered with caterpillars from the ground to the ridge pole. The owner was obliged to put tanglefoot around the house, and wash off the caterpillars with a hose.

In spite of all the agitation in regard to the gypsy moths, there are still many who look on the danger from these pests too lightly. The numerical facts I have given may be sufficient to awaken these people to urgent need of co-operative and earnest action in killing off the gypsy moth wherever found.

Paint every nest of the gypsy moth thoroughly with creosote this winter. Every egg must be soaked with the creosote. In the case of hollow trees, cover all holes with zinc. Cut away and burn all underbrush. Inspect every stone wall and fence in the infested region. In the early spring, put a generous ring of tanglefoot or some other sticky stuff around the trunks of every tree to prevent your neighbors' caterpillars from

climbing your trees. If your neighbors will not clear their trees of this pest, it may be necessary to cut down all your trees which interlock or are near enough for the caterpillars to blow across on their threads. Is it not easier to paint each nest than to kill five hundred caterpillars? Is it not easier to kill a few million gypsy caterpillars now than to kill some 400,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 as many million in ten years from now? Every citizen of the United States who kills all the gypsy caterpillars within his reach will be a public benefactor to the community, and in years to come he will be respected for his action.

SAMUEL DOWSE ROBBINS.

The Increase in Pensioners.

There are always complaints of the increasing pension list of the national government, and yet it seems rather ungracious to find fault with the application for help by men who have served their country as soldiers or sailors, or from the widows and

orphans of those who have fought faithfully under the flag of the United States Government. Surprise is expressed that many who apply for pensions even now served in the Civil War, which was ended over forty years ago, but it should be remembered that many men will not seek for a pension unless they are in actual need, and that while the veterans of the Grand Army have been constantly growing fewer, the survivors have also been growing older, and that many of them are naturally less able to support themselves than they were a few years ago. Then, strange as it may seem, there are widows of soldiers of the Civil War who have been unpensioned for years, and who have gone on uncomplainingly until dire necessity has compelled them to ask for assistance. Of course there are applications for pensions for those who enlisted for the Spanish-American war and are unfit to labor hard on account of wounds or sickness, and for the widows and orphans of those who were killed in the same struggle. These are surely deserving of help from the Government.

It should be remembered, too, in time of war that we are very lavish in our promises when we are endeavoring to get men to enlist, and that we have a great deal to say about a grateful country and what it will do for its patriotic sons, but some way or other the gratitude seems to disappear after the cruel war is over.

Provisions For Old Age.

The Committee on Probate and Chancery have been giving a hearing at the State House on the petition of Representatives Brigham of Marlboro and John J. Conway of Boston for the establishment of a system of old-age pensions. Mr. Brigham said it was a proper theory that men in their younger days should make provision for their old age, but in practice this is generally impossible. His petition provides for a pension of \$2.50 per week for all needy men who have reached the age of sixty-five years, and who have paid poll taxes for five years previously. The Conway bill asks for a pension of \$30 per month for a man or woman who has reached the age of sixty years, and who has paid into the treasury \$2 per year from the age of twenty to the age of sixty. Mr. Brigham claimed that his system would not be an added expense but a direct saving. Mr. Conway

said that his provisions were really for an old-age insurance under the supervision of the State, and that there would probably be a surplus rather than a deficit in the fund. It is well known that the French Chamber of Deputies recently passed a bill which gives pensions to indigent workmen who have reached or passed the age of sixty-five. Pensioning is no new thing in New Zealand, where each pensioner gets \$90 per year, and the Labor party in the British House of Commons favors something similar, and will work earnestly for the establishment of old-age pensions. There are in existence old-age pensions, in one form or another, in Sweden, Iceland, Finland, Belgium, Austria and Roumania. Here in the United States there is perhaps not so much necessity for pensions as there is in the old world, where the labor field is greatly overcrowded, but there are, no doubt, many worthy people here who have been unexpectedly reduced to penury, who would thankfully accept a pension from either the State or the National Gov-

are not only very thickly distributed over the old territory, where they are doing a great amount of damage, but they have expanded, until they are now to be found over 3294 square miles of territory, or considerably more than one-fourth of the area of the entire State.

"These facts surely make a most convincing argument, and unless vigorous measures are taken to control the moths, they will in a comparatively few years be found in every part of Massachusetts and throughout New England. Now, figures in connection with disputed matters are usually of interest. Here are a few that I consider very convincing.

PROPERTY ENDANGERED.

"Take for instance, the land exclusive of buildings, in the present infested territory. Its assessed value is \$992,869,964, while the assessed value of that in the remainder of the State is placed at \$272,429,686, or over seventy-seven per cent. of the land value of the State is now infested. In the work of controlling the moths, the

"Now, that is a difficult question for me to answer. Superintendent Kirkland of the State work against the moths could answer that better than I. But if these in charge of the work as the matter progresses, should find that an annual appropriation of say \$300,000 would be needed, have you stopped to consider what portion of that sum the land owners in the uninfested parts of the State would have to pay?"

Professor Fernald did a little figuring and then said: "The taxable property in this State is valued at \$3,420,179,428. If that amount were to be assessed \$300,000, the tax on \$1 would be less than one-seventh of a mill; and I should say a man owning taxable property to the value of \$5000, or an estate of that value, would pay a tax of \$0.294, which he might very properly look upon as a premium paid the Commonwealth to insure him against injury by the moths.

"That is really a far less sum than many persons in the eastern part of the State are now paying for the cleaning of a single

Notes from Washington, D. C.

Dr. Harvey W. Wiley, chemist of the Department of Agriculture, appeared before the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce, giving expert testimony on the pure food bill now under consideration, and enlightened that committee on the methods of manufacture of "blended" and "straight" whiskies. He described to them a scene which he had beheld in the South, of the storage of a cask of whiskey twelve hours after manufacture, the barrel in which the beverage was contained bearing the label "Pure Bourbon Whiskey, Guaranteed Fourteen Years Old." This, he thought, was pretty fast work in making spirits a day old into whiskey aged fourteen years all within five hours. Dr. Wiley beat this performance, however, at his appearance this week.

He had with him in the committee room a lot of glass tubes, graduates, and other apparatus used in chemical experiments, and he told the committee that he was going to make them four different kinds of whiskey without the use of whiskey at all. All he had was one bottle of ethyl alcohol, a tube containing caramel or burnt sugar used for coloring purposes, and some water and flavoring extracts.

With these ingredients he first made Scotch whiskey, which had that "smoky" flavor so distinctive of the pure Scotch article. "The peculiar smoky taste of the real Scotch whiskey," Dr. Wiley said, "results because the malted barley is dried over fires of peat and the taste is largely the result of casks in which it is placed. I am told that sherry casks are the favorites of the distillers, as much as \$12 being paid for a single barrel."

Dr. Wiley next manufactured Bourbon and rye whiskies from the same stock as used in making "Scotch whiskey," with the exception that different flavoring extracts were used. The Bourbon and rye each had "aging oil" dropped in, which made the mixture look a bit more like red whiskey, and Dr. Wiley said the stuff was "fourteen years old." The final experiment was in making brandy from the same stock as the others.

TO PREVENT CRUELTY TO LIVE STOCK.

Chairman Hepburn of the House Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce recently received a letter from President William O. Stillman of the American Humane Association, calling attention to the need of legislation by Congress for more humane transportation of stock, better stockyard facilities, and shorter hours on the cars in order to prevent starvation and exhaustion.

"We believe the same result desired by the friends of anti-cruelty bills now under consideration," the letter states, "can be accomplished without commercial injury."

"Live stock trains should be given right of way over freight trains, and their speed should practically be doubled. A minimum of eighteen to twenty miles an hour during the legal twenty-eight hours should be established, which would result in covering about five hundred miles. It seems that live stock trains are not making more than 250 miles in twenty-eight hours, much of the time being spent on side tracks. Some shippers say their cattle lose as much as two hundred pounds' head in getting to market."

Cattle are accustomed to eating a great deal of the time. Aside from the bewildering and terror of being densely packed and subjected to unusual sounds and conditions, the exhaustion of cattle on moving and jolting trains, without food or water, is cruel. There should be a radical reform in stockyard conditions, to protect cattle from the weather, filth and mire.

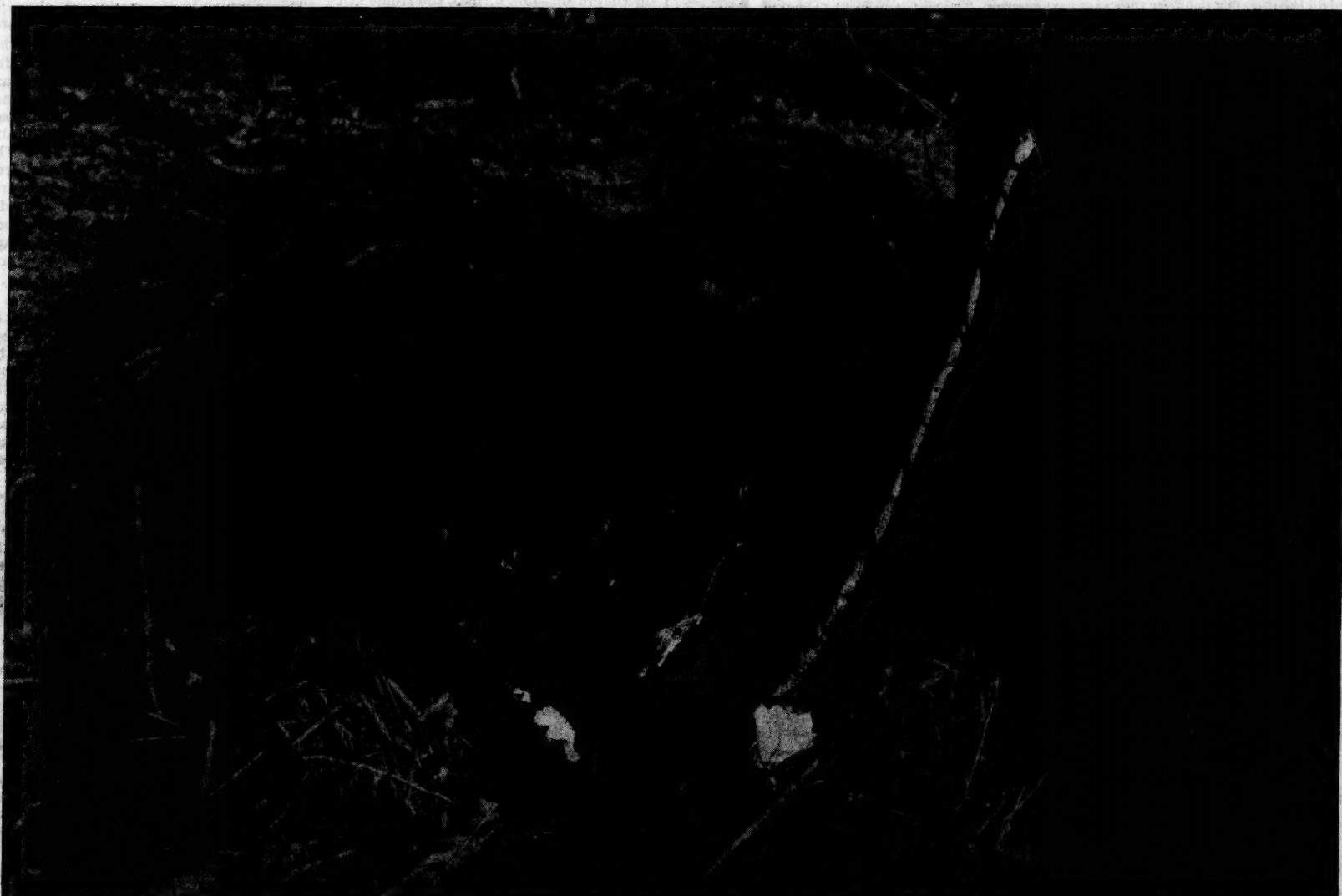
"Shippers should have the privilege of feeding their own stock to prevent extortion charges. There should be a Federal inspector in stockyards to see that provisions of the law are complied with, and that cruelty in loading and unloading should be stopped. In case five hours is not sufficient for cattle to rest, feed and recover from stiffness, the period should be extended. Where shippers and transportation companies do not observe the twenty-eight hour limit, improved stock cars should be used, enabling them to observe this important feature. The history of the anti-cruelty movement disproves the theory that right of property is sufficient to cause persons to take proper care of their stock. It has always been necessary to wage war against the owner."

INCREASED APPROPRIATION FOR EXPERIMENT STATIONS.

A bill has passed the House of Representatives, which, if it becomes a law, will mean that the experiment stations of the various States will have an increased amount of money at their command for close study and experiments with subjects pertaining to the needs of the agricultural interests of this country. Up to this time the experiment stations have been receiving but \$15,000 annually for this work, but under the bill as passed by the House, they will receive during the next fiscal year \$30,000 each. The bill also provides that the amount allotted to each station, thereafter, shall be increased \$3000 annually, for a term of five years, when the annual appropriation will be \$30,000 for each. The Secretary of Agriculture is charged with the proper administration of the law.

The Secretary of Agriculture has made a request on Congress for an appropriation of \$300,000 to continue the work of constructing the new building for the Department of Agriculture. This is well within the limit of cost fixed by Congress when it was decided to erect a new home for this department.

GUY E. MITCHELL.



OLD TIN BOX LINED WITH EGG CLUSTERS AND PUPAE OF GYPSY MOTHS.

ernment, and Michigan, Illinois and Wisconsin have been considering the subject of old-age pensions.

In alluding to this matter the New York Mail says: "What would it cost to grant a pension to every American over sixty-five? Not so much as might be imagined. There are in the United States, according to the last census, 2,083,955 persons of sixty-five years or over, and of these about a million are already in receipt of pensions, as civil war veterans or their dependents. The Government spent \$142,000,000 last year in support of the latter, or about \$1.42 for each pensioner. If it were to grant old-age pensions, and apply them to veterans as well as civilians, it would pay every one of its three million old people the maximum German pension (\$87 annually) and yet increase its total pension expenditure only from \$142,000,000 to \$170,000,000. If it paid them at the highest old-age pension in the world, the New Zealand rate, it would need to spend about \$275,000,000 a year, or nearly double its present expenditure for war pensions. If it paid every aged person at the same liberal scale it pays its veterans it would have to spend about \$420,000,000, where its total expenditure last year was \$367,411,611." Here are facts and figures to please the most exacting, but we fear that old-age pensions in this country are far distant. Many conservative people seem to think that they would drift perilously near socialism.

serious feature is the woodlands and forests which are already infested. The total amount of woodlands in the State as given in the last census is 1,460,995 acres, valued at \$23,895,892, or \$16.36 per acre. At present there is infested 365,260 acres of woodland valued at \$9,884,885, or \$27.08 per acre.

"That tells us something of the conditions in the infested part of the State, but now hear these figures for the uninfested western part of Massachusetts. In this section there are 1,095,729 acres of woodland, valued at \$14,014,470, or \$12.81 per acre, a lower valuation per acre, you see, than in the eastern part of the State.

THE CHEAPEST WAY.

"There is no disputing the fact that the cheapest way in which forests can be cleared of the pests is to cut down and burn all underbrush and more or less of the trees, allowing the more valuable ones to stand and be burriapped the following season. The cutting and burning costs about \$50 an acre, as an average, for it is more or less, according to the character of the woods, but that is a conservative figure. To that cost must be added that for briarapping and also for the work of killing the caterpillars which assemble under the coverings. That entire cost has to be repeated with each new infestation. The cost of cleaning the forests is more than three times the average assessed valuation of the woodlands of the State, and beyond question, also far more than their intrinsic value, as well. That is certainly a most discouraging outlook, and in addition to that we would have the cost of cleaning the orchards, nurseries, shrubbery, public and private parks, etc.

"I consider these facts significant and worth bearing in mind when the matter of controlling the moths is under consideration. It is a matter of great importance to stop the further spread of the moths, and, needless to say, the only way in which to do this work is in such a manner as to leave no opportunity for the escape of the insects into new territory. In my opinion the property of land owners in central and western Massachusetts is endangered, and the people there are powerless to prevent their lands becoming infested unless the State comes to their assistance and insures them against loss from moth ravages. This can easily be done by direct appropriation for the suppression of the insects."

"How much would be necessary, professor?" asked the reporter.

apple tree. Should such a tax be continued for—well, say forty years as an illustration, and that is as long as an ordinary man would be likely to have charge of a farm—his premium for that entire time would amount to \$11.76. Even that is a smaller sum than would be required to clean the moths from a small orchard for a single year in the eastern part of the State.

"Wisdom demands that all land owners insist the necessary appropriations be made by the Legislature, and that the work of suppressing the moth be carried on in the most approved and economical manner."

THE TWO MOTH VARIETIES.

"Because their habits differ, the gypsy and the brown-tail moths should be considered separately. The female brown-tail moth flies freely and the female of the gypsy variety not at all. This accounts for the greater spread of the brown-tail moth in the same period of time. The young brown-tail caterpillars are gregarious, and, as is well known, hibernate in winter tents at the outer limbs of the trees, and are, therefore, easily destroyed during the winter months. The variety of trees and shrubs they feed upon is not so great as in the case of the gypsy moth, and they have never caused as much damage as the latter.

PARASITES MERELY AN EXPERIMENT.

"You may say that it is true I opposed the importation of parasites during the State work prior to 1900, but it was because at that time the aim of the State was extermination, not merely suppression. There was danger then that the caterpillars with parasites would be killed and in that way all the imported parasites would be destroyed. But at that time I urged the State authorities, when the extermination work was stopped, to import the best varieties of the parasites. The importation of the little parasites is a far more difficult task than most persons seem to suppose, and none but a most skilled entomologist should be allowed to undertake such a commission.

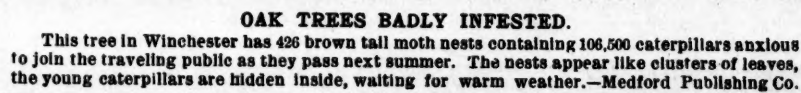
"Even if the importation of the parasites, now going on under the direction of Dr. L. O. Howard, proves successful, it will be several years before they can multiply sufficiently to form a useful fighting force against the moths. The importation of parasites is as yet purely an experiment, and in the meantime, and I wish to make this point as emphatic as possible, every effort should be made to suppress the moths and to prevent their spread."

The Dairy Calf.

Quite an interesting discussion followed, and all appeared to be well pleased with the address, so practical and easily to be understood. This lady, it would appear, has a large herd of Jersey cows and young animals, and talks strictly from experience.

THE BITTER CRY OF THE CHILDREN.

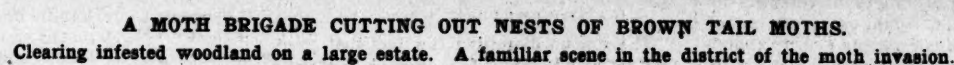
The book will please both men and women, for it is a sensible account of the experiences of a happily married young woman told with no little honest sentiment and good humor, and with an appreciation of the duties of wedded life that is fairly cap-



nating. The housekeeper and the house-
mate of this book is a charming little
woman, who has her own independent views
about things generally, and about Jean
Jacques Rousseau in particular. She
assumes domestic cares in a cheerful spirit,
and with a desire to contribute to the
happiness of her life partner and herself by
those little attentions which make the
household a real retreat from the trials and
sorrows of the outside world. The name of
the author of this charming and in-
spiring volume is not given, but she is
certainly one who knows whereof she speaks,
and writes with a desire to make mar-
riages really a union of hearts. She writes
without affectation, and puts her thoughts
into words in a style that is impressive and
entertaining. The following is worth re-
membering: "Jack's gospel is one of good
cheer, courage, courtesy, patience and love.
He has his faults, and I am not blind to
them; but I do not propose to throw away
the good for the bad. I will be true to my
faults. I shall be much too busy attending
to my own, which are none too few. How
strange it is that we do not strive harder to
realize in ourselves the ideal we demand in
another!" In binding and typography the
volume is as attractive as are its contents.

The beginning was made with one
patient and a friend who offered her ser-
vices as matron. The necessity for a host-
ess of this kind was immediately seen by char-
itable people, who sent donations, and the
number of patients increased. Dr. Cullum
had the sacrificing spirit of the true re-
former and philanthropist. He continued
his private medical practice, but devoted all
his income above his immediate needs to
the support of the Home. And from this
small beginning, in 1864, the institution has
grown to its present size. It now oc-
cupies in Dorchester now included in
acres of land, beautifully laid out by a land-
scape gardener, upon which are fine build-
ings, the whole property being entirely re-
deemed from encumbrance and eminently well
adapted for its purpose. The good doctor
has passed on to another and a better
world, but his noble work lives after him
and has blessed and is blessing thousands
of poor sufferers, who but for his beneficence
and ministrations would have died in misery
and despair.

In the consumptive's home building
patient has a bright, airy, sunny room, and
there are accommodations for twenty men
on the first floor and rooms for the same
number of women on the second floor.



THE FORT IN THE WILDERNESS.
The fifth volume of the Colonial series, by Edward Stratemeyer, "The Fort in the Wilderness, or, The Soldier Boys of the Indian Trails," is a continuation of its predecessor, "On the Trail of Pontiac." The action of the present story is concerned with the conspiracy of Pontiac, and takes place principally at Detroit and around the great lakes. "The boy readers of the series will find many old friends among the characters in this tale, including David Morris and his cousin Henry, Sam Barlingsford and White Buffalo. The story is as edifying as it is healthfully stimulating. (Boston: Lee & Shepard. Price. \$1.50.)

The Cullis Consumptives' Home, which began as a work of faith over forty years ago, is pursuing its beneficent work. Dr. Charles Cullis, the young physician, when he was inspired to start the institution through a recognition of the fact that there was no place of refuge, save the poor-house, for destitute incurable consumptives. Mrs. Cullis, in a letter in the pamphlet containing the fortieth and forty-first annual reports of the Home, says that he had no money, but he thought "If I do what I can and make a small beginning, surely God will come to my help. For two years he planned and prayed, and then began with just \$300 in his pocket, to take room at Willard street, in the West End of Boston proper, and had it dedicated at a small gathering of clergymen and friends.

From the report of Mrs. Marie C. Mallory, the secretary, we learn that there are few vacancies in the wards, and there is often a long waiting list of applicants for admission. Not long ago a mother and little son were received at the same time, coming from abject poverty, the husband and father being a drunkard. These two unfortunate were happy together until their poor woman died; then the boy was taken in charge by a relative, having sufficient money to recover to leave the sheltering arms of the Institution. The Home has received several legacies during the past twenty years which have greatly aided in carrying

The Rev. Dr. A. C. Dixon, of the Ruggles street Baptist Church. The officers of the Home otherwise include Mrs. Lucetta A. Cullis, Benjamin F. Bedfern, Rev. L. T. Townsend, D. D., Thomas McLean, Miss Miriam B. Johns, Alina Wood, Charles W. Johnson, John H. Johnson, Miss M. L. Richardson, George E. Coleman, E. Marie C. Mallory, E. D. Mallory, Rev. E. D. Mallory. The members of the medical board are Herbert C. Clapp, M. D., professor of diseases of the chest, Boston University School of Medicine; attending physicians, Samuel H. Calderwood, M. D., J. Tucker Cutler, M. D., Percy G. Browne, M. D., E. P. Ruggles, M. D. The matron is Mrs. C. M. Torrey, who wise and faith-

TAIL MOTHS.
 trict of the moth invasion.

R. Fulton Cutting, president of the New York Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor, announces an offer of \$125,000 from John D. Rockefeller for a hospital for children suffering from tuberculosis. This offer is made with the understanding that the association will raise a like amount by June 30 of this year, and that the maintenance of the hospital will be provided for.

Practical Poultry Points.
An account of successful poultry keeping
as at hand from A. T. Severance of Exeter,
N. H. His breeds are Columbian Wyandottes
and Plymouth Rocks. Stock pro-
duced in fifteen months 3642 eggs, an average

See Local Agents or Write for Special Prices. Dealers
in Agricultural Chemicals and Poultry Supplies.

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COILED SPRING FENOR CO.
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or coin. As a premium with these Bulbs we will send FREE a big collection of flower seeds—over 200 kinds.
HILLSIDE NURSERY, SOMERVILLE, MASS.

high land, good old-fashioned house that can be remodeled. Essex County preferred. Desires renting with privilege of buying or will take a reasonable lease. State particular house building condition, price.

W. S. MILLER, TOLEDO, OHIO,
WILL compile catalogues of Polled Durhams and short-horns. A breeder of Polled Durhams and a long-bred breeder of pure-bred stock.

ended by BELL METAL No. 9082 (sire Imp. Island
 Champion, dam Imp. Belvidera), PETER THE
 GREAT OF PAXTA-G No. 6346, and
 BLUE BLOOD No. 6310.
 Such Cows as Imp. Deanie 7th. 503 9 lbs. butter; Imp.

winners at New York State Fair for 1906 comprise 1 champion, 12 firsts, 8 seconds and 6 thirds. Prices very reasonable. For farther information and Illustrated Catalogue, address

ALFRED G. LEWIS, Geneva, N. Y.

NOTE.—Twenty choice two-year-old Heifers from

CHOICE OHIO HIDES.
Weights and selections guaranteed. Our new and modern hide house affords every facility for promptly supplying any class of

Berkshires. First premium herd boars
from one to two years old
at fancy prices asked.
S. J. WHITMORE, Heron, Mich.

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Poultry.

The Squab Industry.

Squab raising, when properly managed, will pay a large profit on the amount of capital.

A room 12x15 feet will accommodate twenty hens that should pay about \$1 a year each clear. The same space will accommodate one hundred pigeons, or fifty pairs, that will pay a profit of \$2 a pair if properly managed. Note the difference. Certainly a very rich industry.

BREEDING STOCK.

The selection of stock for breeding is a very important matter. If you wish to commence right do not get anything but thoroughbred Homer pigeons that will breed large, fat squabs for your labor and money invested. You require birds that are good nurses and so prolific that the hen will lay a second pair of eggs before the first pair of young are out of the nest. Squabs hatch in seventeen days and in about one month are ready for the market. Do not start with common pigeons, as the result will be that you will get small, poor squabs, and few of them.

When we first commenced squab raising we placed fifty pairs of good Homer breeders in a pen 12x15, and in one month from that time they had hatched out eighty nice squabs that four weeks later we could have sold for \$2.50 per dozen, at least.

It costs about sixty cents to feed a pair of good breeders a year, and they will hatch out from seven to ten pairs of squabs a year. We have demonstrated the fact that there is a profit of \$2 a pair per year in good healthy breeders.

BREEDING HOUSE.

The first thing to do in starting to raise squabs is to provide a suitable house. Any loft, shed or barn gable will do, if it is light and dry with southern exposure, as it will be warmer in winter. Two and one-half feet floor space is about right for a pair of breeders. A room 12x15 feet and seven feet high (so you can catch them at any time) will accommodate fifty pairs of breeders. This will make an ideal pen.

For perches nail some 1x2 inch strips overhead along the beams, also short perches, where there is room, about three or four feet from the floor.

If you have fifteen or twenty feet of land outside of the house, in front, make a flight of 15 inch wire netting of such size as you wish, the larger the better, about 12x20 feet wide around the enclosure, and nail some 1x2 inch strips across the flight for perches. Provide a board about ten inches wide on the front of the house outside at the opening for them to light on and sun themselves.

NESTS, BOXES, MATERIALS.

The simplest as well as the cheapest nest boxes are the common egg crates, with a middle partition, which can be obtained at almost any market or grocery store at a cost of about five cents each. Set them on their side around the room as you wish, and be sure to have them about twelve or fifteen inches from the floor. You can get fifty of these boxes in a room 12x12 feet. Each pair of birds will need one of these boxes, as squabs may be in one nest, and the same pair of birds will have eggs in the other.

Place in these boxes an earthen dish 3 inches in diameter at the top and three inches deep. You can purchase them at any pottery for about seven cents each, or you can use a box six by eight inches. The dish is preferable, as it is easier to clean.

For nesting material use small tobacco stems or broken old straw. It is better to put in a box of straw, so they can have all they wish.

WATER, FEED AND SALT.

Provide a galvanized pan twelve inches in diameter and 3 inches deep, with a round board slatted on the sides with lath, so it will stand about three inches above the top edge of the pan and they will drink through the openings.

Give them fine table salt in boxes, not too much at first, and plenty of clean water, also plenty of grit and oyster shells in boxes.

We find that good, clean, red wheat, Kaffir corn and cracked corn are good staple foods the year round. Use rather more corn in winter than summer as it is more heating than the other foods. Feed this in V-shaped troughs, slatted so the birds can scatter the grain on the floor.

Keep everything clean and have plenty of water before them all the time.

SEX AND DISEASE.

You can easily tell the sex of a bird after a short time. They will commence to build nests, and the male will drive the hen to the nest. The male or cock bird is larger than the hen and does all the chasing.

To mate any pair desired, confine each bird in one of the nest boxes for a few days with a wire partition between them, then let them go together and they will usually mate.

Regarding disease, we do not think it pays to bother with sick pigeons. If their houses and nests are kept clean and they have wholesome food, water and pure air you should not have any sick birds and will not be troubled with loss.

Cleanliness is a good prevention to disease anywhere. Do not forget to give them plenty of clean water for drinking and bathing purposes.—E. S. Schmidt, Washington, D. C.

Horticultural.

What Shippers Most Need.

The need of some sort of an offset to the power of the commission dealer, especially in his relations with the small shippers, was emphasized at detail in a recent editorial in this paper. A number of communications have been received, and the general subject will be considered at this month's meeting of the Massachusetts Fruit Growers Association. Following are a number of the opinions which express the general sentiments, all of the letters received at this office taking views similar to some of those expressed below:

CO-OPERATION IS THE WAY.

The suggestion is O. K. for a starter. Co-operation and personal sales are coming.—T. L. Kinney, Grand Isle County, Vt.

EASTERN GROWERS MUST LEARN LESSON.

The recent editorial is largely in accord with the doctrine I have been trying to emphasize for some time. The details must be worked out, but I am confident that the best development of New England agriculture cannot come until there is a spirit of co-operation among those engaged in agricultural pursuits. The fruit growers of the East have yet to learn the lesson of co-operative marketing as practiced on the Pacific coast. As a matter of fact, however, there would be much less cause for complaint if there were a better acquaintance

and a better understanding between shipper and seller. There is much to be said on both sides of the question.—Prof. W. M. Munson, Experiment Station, Orono, Me.

THE SMALL SHIPPER SUFFERS.

You are doubtless entirely right in your views that the small shipper often suffers in the sale of his products. Of course, with a co-operative organization having a large amount of products to market, I can readily see that it might prove eminently desirable to maintain a man in the market to look after it, although in that case it would seem to me that he might do at least a great deal of the marketing directly instead of merely watching the marketing through the commission houses.—Fred W. Card, Horticultural Department, Kingston, R. I.

IN UNION IS STRENGTH.

Unsatisfactory experience with commission trade was the great factor in the development of our fruit business to that point whereby I could attract the dealers to me instead of having to go to them. Again it was one of the determining factors in my pushing Franklin-Hampshire Fruit Growers Association forward to a successful organization, for in union, in any cause, there is always strength. My policy for the present will be to encourage the fruit growers of our section to produce just as good a quality of fruit as is possible, to handle the same carefully and pack honestly; then if these methods do not produce satisfactory results, it will be in order to evolve some plan whereby the growers may have a part in the selling end. I think the greatest aid such a paper as yours, or any other of like kind, could give the cause of fruit growers, would be to strenuously advocate that all fruit growers should ally themselves with some association like the above. The united prestige of a large body of growers would have a very excellent effect upon the doings of most of the dealers in large cities. I think the organization known as the National League of Commission Merchants is a step towards meeting us growers half way. A copy of their preamble I herewith enclose to you, and which I must say impresses me very favorably. Co-operative buying is entirely feasible, and I have wholesale prices on spraying outfits which I shall submit to our members at our next meeting.—E. Cyrus Miller, President Franklin-Hampshire Fruit Growers Association, Haydenville, Mass.

Youth's Department.

A BUSY DAY.

My papa has a little sign.
Printed in black and gray;
It's only just a single line:
"This Is My Busy Day!"

And sometimes when I creep to look,
He's writing with a pen;
Or quietly reading in a book—
He calls that busy then!

Why, when I'm busy I just race
Downstairs; then, like as not,
I fly back to the other place
For something I forgot!

Then I slide down the banisters,
And from the porch I spring
(Perhaps I tumble in the burs)
Then go and take a swing.

And then I race Jack Smith to town,
Or climb the garden wall;
And though I'm sure to tumble down,
Nobody minds a fall.

But if I sat still on a chair,
It wouldn't be my way
To say, with such important air:
"This Is My Busy Day!"

Carolyn Wells, in St. Nicholas.

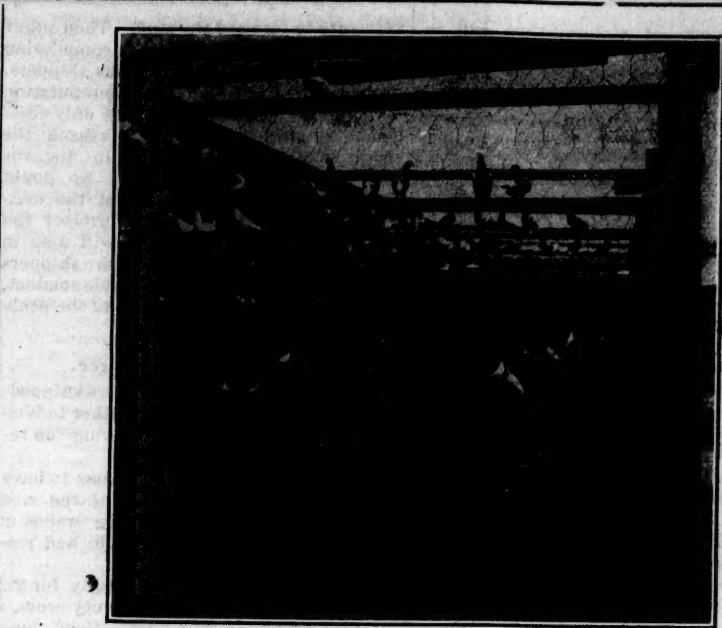
The Oregon Beaver.

This animal is nearly extinct. It is nearly as rare now in nature as it is on the Oregon coast—called beaver money—of the early time. All early explorers and settlers of the Oregon country were familiar with the beaver. The Oregonian is not sure that any members of the species now remain. It was said a while ago that Mr. L. L. Hawk of Portland, who, as a naturalist, takes interest in all the fauna and flora of the country, knows where there is now a colony or family of beavers, not thirty miles from Portland, but he wouldn't tell, lest betrayal of their retreat might lead to their destruction. There was scarcely a more favorite haunt of the beaver than the streams of the Oregon country. It was the beaver, chiefly, that led the explorers and trappers hither. Following the expedition of Lewis and Clark, the American Fur Company and the Hudson's Bay Company pushed into the vast Western territory. Furs and peltries were the main objects of their enterprise. Chief of the valuable fur-bearing animals was the beaver. His haunts were the rivers and lakes bordered by woodland. A large part of North America was his habitat. Canada, the upper Mississippi and Missouri regions, the valleys of the Columbia and Fraser rivers, and especially the whole of western Oregon and of British Columbia, were his favorite grounds. The animal was always very shy, not prolific, and therefore easily exterminated. In many parts, he was hunted to the verge of extinction. He was different from the beaver of the Eastern, yet of the same general family. But since the historic period began, it never was so numerous in the Eastern Hemisphere as it was in the Western, at the time of the discovery and till long afterwards.

The demand for the fur of the beaver—strange as it may seem—was one of the factors that combined to break the way into the great wilderness of the West, and in its result, it was the most important one. It led the trapper and trader from the Great Lakes and the Mississippi to the Western Ocean.

Swift streams, flowing through rocky canyons, the beaver avoided—unless here and there a stream opened out into valleys where there were lakes or marshes that could be controlled and where there was timber or brushwood in some abundance. When the stream was large and deep and swift the beaver could not build a dam, nor was it necessary, since the animal could not burrow into the banks and establish his chamber at a steady water level. Where waters were continually swift and uncontrollable, and especially where they were not bordered by an abundance of cottonwood, willow, yellow birch and other favorite wood food, the beaver was absent. Where brooks and creeks were small, with proper wood growths, the beavers were abundant, as well as in the natural lakes and quiet reaches of the larger streams.

The purpose of the beaver in building his dams was to maintain a steady water level. That is, the object of the dam was the formation of an artificial pond, the principal uses of which were the refuge to them when assailed, and the water connection it gave to their lodges and to their burrows in the banks. Hence, as the level of the pond must be all cases have risen from one to two feet above these entrances for the protection of the animal from pursuit and capture, the surface level of the pond must have been subject to their immediate control. With this in view, their dams were always constructed. The animal lived wholly on bark and twigs; its food for winter where the climate was severe, was prepared by cutting poles and branches, which it dragged into places within or beside the lodge, and the bark was stripped off as wanted. The cutting was done mainly with the inferior or lower teeth—the upper teeth, though formidable in appearance, being used mainly for holding. All early settlers of Oregon were familiar with the habits of the beaver. So common was the animal, indeed, that it was not possible to miss notice of him. Throughout the entire Oregon country, west of the Cascade mountains, there was scarcely a creek or swamp which the beaver did not inhabit. Strange to say, the Indians lacked the ingenuity to capture



THE PIGEON YARD.

them, which the whites so quickly developed. One reason was, doubtless, that the Indians lacked the incentive of profit; for till the whites came the furs had little or no value.

But the beaver is now almost unknown. In the Oregon country he's practically extinct. He can live no life but that of nature, undisturbed by man. For man's desire to kill, and his eagerness for profit, exerted upon a timid and not very prolific race of animals, has virtually destroyed it. Yet there are persons still living in Portland who have seen dwellings of the beaver within short distances all around the present city, if not within or upon the very site of it.—Portland Oregonian.

One of Nature's Tools.

Growing by the wayside you will often see that statey, spiky looking plant, the teasel, but I wonder how many know that it has helped to finish many a piece of cloth they wear.

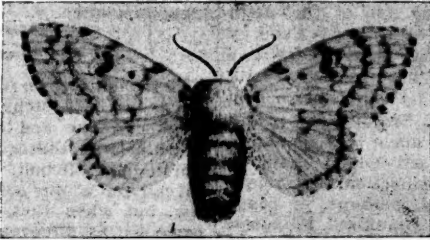
We are apt to think of a tool as something of man's make, yet here is one of nature's own, and nothing has ever been manufactured to successfully take its place. For ages the teasel has



SQUABS IN NEST.

been used for fulling cloth, that is, raising the "nap," and the manufacturers refer to "nap goods" thus treated as "gigged."

When ripe the dried spike heads are gathered, packed carefully in bundles, and shipped in all directions to factories. The variety mostly used have the extreme end of spikes hooked or curved backward. This is called fullers' teasel. These heads form a sort of brush, and are attached to a wheel or cylinder, which revolves against the surface of the cloth, and these curved spikes catch part of the threads, and pull them up, making a fuzzy nap. This is trimmed down and leaves that soft, velvety finish to the cloth. The spikes have strength enough and elasticity, but when they come in contact with a rough place in the cloth they break, and so avoid tearing the material. Try as they may, no one has ever been able to invent a tool possessing all of these qualities, so the teasel stands unrivalled for that use. The plant is a native of growing wild looks, perhaps, at first glance somewhat like a thistle, but it really has a dig-



GYPSY MOTH. (Female)

Brown-tail moth is much smaller and is clear white color, except brownish tuft at end of body.

nity and character all its own. The heads in flower are covered with a fluffy down, lavender or white, and as the blossoms drop and the spikes appear, until a little later it fairly bristles. The leaves, pointed and spiked, shooting out each side of the stem, meet at base and form a little basin in which is usually water. So we have the name of the plant from the Greek *Dipsacus*, meaning thirsty, and many other fanciful ones, such as Venus' Cup, Venus Bath, Wood or Church Brooms, Gypsy Combs, Clothier's Brush, etc.—St. Nicholas.

Heron Rookery in Michigan.

A notable nesting place of the great blue heron is ten miles west of this city on the north bank of the Kalamazoo river.

It is notable for the reason that there are now only a few nesting places left of this handsome and majestic bird in this State, and still more notable for the fact that this is the only rookery not located in inaccessible swamps, almost impossible to penetrate, especially for women bird students.

Hérons always return to the same nesting place. The ones at this rookery have returned annually for twenty years past.

The nests are huge, rude affairs, built of stick and twigs of about the same size, loosely placed together and forming a sort of lattice work on which the eggs are laid.

They use the same nest every year, simply adding more sticks. The eggs number from three to four, are of a bluish green color, a little larger than hen's eggs.

If possible, sycamore trees are always selected for nesting because the color of the bark harmonizes perfectly with the plumage of the bird and affords what ornithologists term "protective coloration."

The herons during the nesting period are of great benefit to the farmers as they destroy all the snakes and field mice for mass around. When they are feeding the young, the noise and commotion made can be heard at a great distance.—Detroit Free Press.

Studying Grammar.

A teacher in a public school of Boston once had great difficulty in imparting to a boy pupil at ten certain elementary principles of grammar. In class one day the instructor experienced more than the usual amount of trouble with the lad. In desperation the teacher finally blurted out the question: "At least you can tell me why we study grammar?"

"Yes, ma'am," returned the pupil; "we study grammar so that we can laugh at the mistakes of others."—Harper's Weekly.

1640 runs thus: "Those who go out of the House in a confused manner to forfeit it." Others enact that "All the members that come after eight (the House met at eight o'clock in the morning then) to pay; and those who do not come the whole day to pay \$5; those who do not come to prayers to pay \$5; those members as come after nine o'clock to pay \$5 to the poor," etc. Still more expensive was it for members to go out of town without permission. In 1664 a penalty of £10 was imposed upon every knight and of £5 upon every citizen who should make default in attending the House; and a penalty of £40 upon every member "as shall desert the service of the House for the space of three days together (not having had leave granted him by the House); and he shall be sent for in custody and committed to the Tower." Week-enders had a bad time in 1664.

Notes and Queries.

POISON IN PLANTS.—"L. V. S.": Flowers of the jonquil, white hyacinth and snowdrop all possess a poisonous nature, the narcissus being also particularly deadly, so much, indeed, that to chew a small scrap of one of the bulbs may result fatally, while the juice of the leaves is an emetic. The berries of the yew have killed many persons, and it is pretty well known nowadays that it is not safe to eat many peach pits or cherry kernels at once. The lobelias are all dangerous. Lady's slipper poisons in the same manner as does poison ivy. The bulbs seem to be the most harmful. Lilies of the valley are also as much so. There is enough opium in red poppies to do mischief; and the autumn crocus, if the blossoms are chewed, causes vomiting and purging. The leaves and flowers of the oleander are deadly, and the bark of the casta tree is very mischievous.

COPPER PRODUCTION.—"S.": The world's production of copper makes steady headway every year. During 1904 the aggregate reached 6,618,125 tons, in comparison with 674,740 tons for 1903, 541,255 tons for 1902, 479,511 tons for 1901, 399,730 tons for 1897, and 324,505 for 1894—the output has thus almost doubled in the past ten years. The United States continues to furnish more than 50 per cent. of the world's total.

HOT BATHS.—"N. J.": Straubinger has made extensive experiments upon the action of water upon the circulation of the blood. One result of his experiments is that hot baths set unfavorably upon the heart. People with weak heart, or valvular disease of the heart, should take hot baths with great caution. The first effect of them is to cause the blood to desert the surface of the body, then afterwards producing a decided congestion of the capillary system. This constitutes a great strain upon the heart. Many people have fainted while taking a hot bath. Occasionally a fatal accident occurs. There is enough truth in all this to operate as a caution to people to take a hot bath, especially such as are not accustomed to it. Those who have been accustomed to taking hot baths have fortified their system against the ill effects by

THE National Government spent six million dollars last year for the advancement of agriculture, and the States half as much more. There are thousands of bright minds working on problems touching the farm. It is which most concerns them is the fertility of the soil,—how to grow the largest crops at the least cost. The Stockbridge Manures help to solve the problem, because, as experience shows, they produce large crops at small cost. They have been on the market for thirty years and farmers have learned to depend upon them. They work when they are expected to work—when the crop needs them. They are well-balanced, active manures. They carry crops through to a successful harvest without exhausting the soil, because they supply what crops require, in the nick of time.

Mr. Lowrey, of Whitville, Ct., raised in an old pasture the past season 240 bushels of potatoes per acre, also exhibited 25 varieties of potatoes at the County fair, taking 18 first and 4 second prizes. He used Stockbridge exclusively.

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OUR third importation of 1904 arrived a few days before New Year's over 100 head of draft stallions, two years old or over. In this lot were 40 Belgians, 40 French and the balance English horses. We make a specialty of the big, thick, strawberry roans. We have in this lot 30 roans of the best of quality and biggest size. The three importations of 1904 number over 300 stallions. This last importation is in fine shape, not one with a cold or a cough and every one for sale. We do not keep a few overfed pampered horses year after year for showing and borrow the balance of our show herd. We bring out every year a new champion, and in 1902 two new champions, one at St. Louis, the other at the International. We have now 120 stallions of the wide-spread wagon sort. In fact we will guarantee to show intending purchasers more big wide sound draft stallions than any stable in America or we will pay all expenses and leave the purchasers to be the judges. We guarantee 40 per cent. breeders, insure against death by any cause if desired and give the easiest and most satisfactory terms. Come to Wenona and see the oldest importer today in the business and the importer that has brought more thick breeding stallions of 2000 lbs. than any three firms today in the business, and prices to suit you all.

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ROSEMONT HEREFORDS HEADED BY ACROBAT

Owned by MARQUIS OF SALISBURY 16th 1898, the best son of Imp. Salisbury. Catalogue on application. Correspondence solicited. Visitors welcome. CHARLES E. CLAPP, BERRYVILLE, Clark Co., Va.

something more like united effort and a fairer distribution of the burden. When the

middleman, and he has to pay the money or it before he can take the goods. It is he who sometimes needs the protection, since the shipments often fall short of the stated amount, and he has to make the loss good, having already paid for the produce. The amount is not sufficient to warrant a law suit, and he has to stand the loss. Then there are shippers, he says, who sell at a specified amount, and then if the market goes up refuse to send the goods. If, on the other hand, the

hood. One was administered by an
nolent dame from a bottle.
She used a spoon instead of the rod, and
oured into the mouth of the refractory
upil something that was as bitter as gall,
the taste of which lingered on the tongue
or a long time. To remove it no water was
allowed. It had to go gradually much to the
oungster's discomfort. Why not make
he bad boys of the Quiney School
ake their medicine instead of the rat-
? The other method of correction was

number of the Japanese legation, "was the enormous quantity of rain which fell last season in the islands of Japan. The resulting floods ruined the rice crop and the people in many parts of the empire have died in large numbers for lack of food. An unusual snowfall has been recorded this winter, and we therefore expect a good crop of rice next year, for the water will be stored in the mountains to be ultimately used for the irrigation of the rice fields. We are hopeful that the great snowfall will be followed by a dry season."

—A blizzard with the wind at sixty miles an hour wrecked many buildings in Salt Lake City.

000; 5000 at \$5.75; 10,000 at \$5.50;
5,000 at \$5.00 per 1000.
Asparagus Palmetto, 1 yr., \$3.50;
yr., \$5.00 per 1000; 5 to 10,000 at
3.25; 1 yr. and 2 yr., at \$4.75.
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er 1000; 24 to 30 in., \$30.00 per
1000.
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[illegible]

Our Homes.

The Workbox.

CHILD'S KNEE LEGGINGS.

(Enlited.)

Procure two skeins of white German-town sephyr. Two fine bone needles. Cast on 51 stitches. Knit 2 plain, purl 2 alternately for 15 rows.

Knit 2 rows plain. Knit 1 row of holes for cord or elastic. Knit 2 rows plain. Seventeen plain, then 7 purl, 3 plain, 7 purl, 1 plain, turn, knit back 1 plain, 7 purl, 3 plain, 7 purl, 2 plain, turn, knit back. Continue in this way, adding one stitch at the end of each needle until the 51 stitches are complete. Reverse the design every 4th ridge.

Knit 8 blocks more. Then (*) 4 plain, purl 3, 9 plain, purl 3, 12 plain, purl 3, 9 plain, purl 3, 4 plain, 3 plain, purl 1, 3 plain, purl 9, 3 plain, purl 1, 10 plain, purl 1, 3 plain, purl 9, 3 plain, purl 1, 3 plain, repeat from (*).

Knit 4, purl 3, take another needle and knit 3 very loosely on to the work.

Knit 3 stitches with the first needle. Place the extra needle with its stitches back of first needle, knit 3 more with the first needle, and with the same needle knit off the 3 stitches on the extra needle, to form the twist of the braid. Now (*) purl 3, 12 plain, purl 3, and repeat from (*) between the twists, purl 3, 4 plain.

8th row—Three plain, purl 1, 3 plain, purl 9, 3 plain, purl 1, 10 plain, purl 1, 3 plain, purl 9, 3 plain, purl 1, 3 plain.

Repeat from first row of braid until there are 18 rows at the middle portion of the front.

Instep—Knit the 12 stitches in the centre back and forth for 8 rows or ridges. Pick up all the stitches round the sides and front and knit 5 rows plain, bind off.

EVA M. NILES.

Modern Hosiery Fragile.

Whatever else we have improved in in these modern days, we have not improved with experience in the making of stockings. Hosiery is the bane of the life of the mother of a household now; not that it isn't pretty enough, nor that it isn't cheap enough, when it comes to that, but that it does not wear.

What is the reason for the fragility of the stockings? The cannot, of course, determine (it may be that the dye which is used has a constituent which eats the thread); she only knows that her darning basket is piled high all the time, and that some of the specimens which find their way to it are so ragged that by no possibility can they be reclaimed.

The young woman who goes down town to buy a new pair of boots puts on a perfectly fresh and unworn pair of stockings. She walks eight or ten blocks, says, and when she reaches the shop and the saleswoman takes off her boot to try on the new one she finds, to her horror, that her stocking has a hole in it.

She apologizes, and the clerk laughs. "Don't you care," she says. "I seldom try a shoe on any one who hasn't at least one hole in her hose nowadays. Seems like the best of 'em don't last long."

The best do not. The best are thin, very thin, and they last almost as long as tissue paper would in the same place and exposed to the same wear and tear.

Once there was a young woman who wore a beautiful pair of stockings down town to an accompaniment of pumps. The stockings had pink roses embroidered up and down on them, and the girl was really very proud until she reached home and found the pump had worn a hole in the back of one of them, in a place where it could be plainly seen when she held up her foot.

The mothers of small boys are perfectly desperate about this state of affairs.

"Time was," they say, "when Johnnie could wear a pair of stockings two days without their falling to pieces. Now I spend my days and nights darning, and still can't keep him decently shod."

The salespeople in the shops are more hurt than angry when a customer asks them what's the matter with the modern stockings.

"We think they're lovely," they say. "We don't have a trouble with ours."

One woman who walks very little declares that she spends more for stockings a year than for anything else in her wardrobe in proportion. She buys at least four pairs a month. She pays fifty cents a pair for hers, and so the whole cost is something like twenty-six dollars a year—entirely too much for a person with a moderate income, as any one will agree.

Whichever way we look at it, it is not surprising, but also very interesting, that the attention of inventors is respectfully directed to thatward, with the hope that some remedy can be found for the congested darning basket.—Baltimore News.

Life in the Harem.

The ordinary idea of a harem probably accords little with the picture of life behind the casements or screens covering the windows of the seraglio presented by Mrs. L. Parks-Richard in a lecture at the Waldorf-Astoria recently. In the first place, Mrs. Richards stated that there was as a rule only one wife in the harem.

"Polygamy is practically non-existent among the Turks," said Mrs. Richards. "The law allows a man four wives, but makes it so difficult for him to take a second one by requiring him to provide for her exactly as he did for the first that it is seldom done. Besides, among the upper classes polygamy is not considered good form. I heard of half a dozen Turks who had two wives while I was in Constantinople, and of one who had four, but these are rare exceptions."

"The crowd of women found in a Turkish harem is made up of servants, slaves and female dependents. No Turk ever lets a relative suffer while he has a roof over his head, and every great house has numbers of such dependents, both male and female."

Neither is the life of the harem dull, according to Mrs. Richards. No man ever enters it except the husband, son, father or brother of the mistress, but she may receive women friends and go to see them.

The relation of the inmates of the harem to one another Mrs. Richards found very beautiful. Children were great pets, she said, and servants and slaves were treated with great consideration. Slaves are often treated like members of the family, may marry a son of the house, and are much sought in marriage by men for the purpose of avoiding complications with mothers-in-law.

"The Sultan's harem," said Mrs. Richards, "is composed entirely of slaves, as the law forbids members of the imperial family from marrying into the great houses of the realm, lest the latter be made too powerful."

The Turkish woman, Mrs. Richards



CUTTING AND BURNING NESTS OF THE GYPSY AND BROWN TAIL MOTHS.

A force of seventy men destroying the infested trees and brush; often the cheapest way to get rid of the pests.

and, is quite satisfied with her lot, while that of the European woman is regarded with horror by the most enlightened Turk. "It is true," said a Turkish official of high rank and much culture, "that we marry our daughters to men whom they never see until their wedding day, but we do not have the awful European spectacle of angling for men. We do not bring them into the open market and sell them to the highest bidder."—N. Y. Tribune.

Time to Start New Plants.

If you want chrysanthemums next fall start new plants now. Very soon after the old plants are brought from the cellar sprouts will appear all over the surface of the soil. When these are about two inches tall cut them away from the old plants in such a manner that each has a bit of root attached. Put these into small pots of rich soil. Keep them well watered, but do not give much heat or they will make a spindling growth.

Be on the lookout for aphids. If any are discovered make an infusion of the ordinary soap of household use, and spray the plants well with it. This is important, as the insects will seriously injure the young plants at this stage of their existence. To make the soap infusion, shave half a five cent cake finely, pour water over it, and put it in a warm place until it becomes liquid. Add to it five or six quarts of water and apply.

Gloxinias and tuberous begonias should be started into growth now. If the tubers were kept in pots over winter, shake them out of the old soil and spread them out on a piece of old carpet or moss, which should be kept warm and moist, and leave them there until they sprout. As soon as sprouts appear, put them into pots of rich loam.

A few roots of dahlias can be potted and started into growth now, if you want some very early flowers, but the bulk of them I would hold in reserve for warm weather planting in the garden. Do not break apart those you start now, but pot the entire bunch of roots. When the time comes to put the plants out, each root that has a sprout attached can be broken off and made an independent plant.—Outing.

Real Flowers on Hats.

"We trim hats with real flowers," said a Broadway florist. "A fine lavender chip adorned with purple orchids and asparagus vine in one window brought us orders for many like it."

"Our mode of trimming injures neither flowers nor hat. Hats trimmed with real flowers have been used in weddings in place of bridemaid's bouquets. They have also been popular as choice toilet favors."

"We trim parasols, too. Customers may buy our parasols or bring their own purchases to have them florally decorated."

"An exquisite pale green parasol was brought here lately to be enhanced with green orchids and maidenhair fern. A more charming gift could hardly be thought of."

"It looks to me as though it would become a fixed fashion to have gifts made more beautiful and giftlike with flower trimmings, which can be removed by the recipient of the present and set in water or worn, as the case may be."—New York Sun.

Domestic Hints.

MAPLE SUGAR ON SNOW. For preparing maple sugar for eating on snow, either the sugar or syrup may be used, but the syrup, if obtainable, is best. Boil the syrup until, when dropped on snow, it remains on the surface and becomes waxy, then spread it upon the surface of the snow or a block of ice. If the sugar is used, add a little water and melt it, being careful not to burn, and treat in the same manner as the syrup. This will be found, as every sugar maker knows, one of the most delicious treats obtainable.

BREAKFAST ROLLS. One egg, one-half cup each milk and cream, two teaspoonsful baking powder, three teaspoonfuls granulated maple sugar. Add flour till about as thick as griddle cakes.

SWEET PICKLES. Seven pounds of fruit, one pint of best maple or cider vinegar, one tablespoonful ground cinnamon, three pounds of maple sugar, one teaspoonful ground cloves, one teaspoonful ground allspice. Boil until the fruit is tender. This is excellent for plums, pears or peaches.

SOLENNES CANDY. Two cups of maple molasses, two teaspoonfuls of butter, one cup of maple sugar, one-half cup of water. Boil all together until done; be careful not to stir while cooking. When done, pull.

RAISED ROLLS. One quart of bread dough, when it is moulded for the last raising, mould in a cup of maple sugar, one-quarter teaspoonful of soda, one tea-

spoonful of butter. Let it rise and mould again and out out, rise and bake. These are very nice.

FROSTING.

Two cups maple sugar, 24 cups of maple syrup, one cup of water if the sugar is used, whites of three eggs. Place the sugar and water in a stew pan and boil until the syrup will fall from the spoon in threads. Beat the whites of the eggs to a stiff froth. Pour the hot syrup into the eggs slowly, beating vigorously. When it becomes too hard for the beater, take a spoon and beat until it is thick enough to spread. Spread between each layer and on top and sides. An excellent chocolate frosting can be made by adding a tablespoonful of best chocolate to this mixture when warm.

Hints to Housekeepers.

To prevent bright pans from being blackened by smoke, rub with fat before putting them on the fire. Wash with hot water and soda.

A writer in House Beautiful describes the conversion of an old ice chest into a useful piece of half furniture. "The possibilities of an old ice

from sudden expansion. Even delicate glass can be safely washed in very hot water if slipped in edgewise.

To improve the flavor of coffee sprinkle with a pinch of salt before adding the water. Some add a little sugar to the salt.

Borax is a useful thing to have in a kitchen. Add a little to the water when boiling out enamel saucepans, and it will help to cleanse them. If added to the water discolored by washing in it will help to keep them a nice color.

According to a New York physician many young women are being treated for a broken arch of the foot, the result of the habitual wearing of high heeled shoes. Restoring the foot to its normal condition and usefulness is a matter of many months, sometimes years, and in some severe cases the patient never fully recovers, having always to wear a specially constructed shoe which supports the foot by steel braces.

When sheets have been in use for some time, do not wait for them to begin to split, but cut through the centre and turn the outer side to the

Lawrence. This he designates as Eden Trial Grounds. All kinds of farm, field and flower seeds are tested as to germinating quality, vitality and purity. Special tests are made with fertilizers, and it has been found that those made from animal matter, like Swift's, are giving astonishing results. A certain variety of potato was planted on Swift's this past season, and report of same will appear later in the columns of this paper. Another experiment conducted by the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station confirms the high value of blood, meat and bone as the true basis of fertilizers, and Swift's Lowell Fertilizer Company was organized about ten years ago to use these by-products by rendering houses located all over New England. Send for free booklet and memorandum book full of valuable information.

Cured Bone Spavin, Splints and Sweeney. STROMSBURG, NEB., Feb. 16, 1906.

The Lawrence Williams Company, Cleveland, O.: I have used your Balsam on bone spavins, curbs and splints with satisfactory results. I have also cured stubborn cases of sweeney by thorough rubbing with Caustic Balsam at reasonable intervals.

MORACE F. SMITH.

This Is The Year To Start An Orchard.

We have a large surplus in Apple trees, Greening, Ben Davis, Sutton Beauty, Roxbury Russe Red Astrachan and other standard varieties. Large assortment of Japan Plums; big supply of choice Asparagus roots. If in need of anything in Fruit or Ornamental Stock, send for our free catalogue; tells how to plant for profit. Prices low.

BARNES BROS. NURSERY CO., Box 88, Yatesville, Conn.

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OF THE PRODUCE OF THE GRANDVIEW HERD OF HIGHLY BREED HIGH-CLASS ANGLO-RED-AND-GAY CATTLE AT

11 BULLS AND 24 HEIFERS

PEORIA, ILL., MARCH 8, 1906

eratic Blackbird, Fries, Erica and Queen Mother families. Herd-leading bulls and show animals of both sexes will be catalogued. Also 400 superbly bred POLAND-ORINA 80W8 in pig to Maplelawn Chief, first prize winner at the World's Fair at St. Louis and Aristocrat A, first prize boar at the Illinois State Fair in 1904. Catalogues on application.

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The latest fashionable fad is the keeping a pet cat. They are not often allowed to roam with the same freedom as nature intended them to, therefore they cannot exercise their instinct in procuring grubs and insects necessary to their health. A tonic is, therefore, necessary, and the Walnut Cat Food is the best for them. Keeps them healthy and active. They thrive on it. Increases their appetite, furnishes strength and vitality, and allows the hair to be soft and silky. For invalid cats it is invaluable. For old cats, it gives them life and appetite. Comes in powdered form in bottles. Try it and make your cat a beautiful pet. Send 50 cents for bottle, or \$1.00 per dozen. Houghton & Dutton, Tremont Street, Boston, Mass.

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It may not be generally known by New England farmers that at North Middleboro, Mass., is located a unique experiment station conducted by Rev. J. R.

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This herd comprises such families as Blackbirds, Fries, Erica, Barnas, Coquettes, Queen Mothers, Heatherblooms, etc. Cattle that were selected because of their choice blood lines and individual excellence. Three high-class bulls in service, the prize-winning WOOD-LAWN ADMIRAL, the noted breeding sire BELL'S ECLIPSE and GAY HERO. Have young bulls by Prince It, imp. Proteros and Grantington Here for sale at reasonable prices. Farm one and a quarter miles from Shelbyville on L. & N., C. & O. and Southern R'y's.

BREED ANGORA CATS

There is money in raising thoroughbred cats. As easy to keep as chickens. Great pleasure in having them around. Some of the women and children can take care of. We would like to make from \$100 to \$500 per year very easily with a small investment. Demand greater than the supply for highly bred stock. Address: WALNUTRIDGE FARMS CO., Box 3025, Boston, Mass.

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Price of Herd Register, \$1 per Single Volume. Butter Tests of Jersey Cows, including tests received by the Club to Aug. 1, 1898, \$3 per volume. Private Herd Record, \$5 per page. Cloth, leather back and corners, \$2. Pocket Herd Record, 120 pages, flexible leather, 50 cents.

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A Smart Jumper

They are interesting, require much training, yet with all their brilliancy of action are very helpless. Constant attention is necessary. A saddle must be well groomed. Nothing finer for his skin or his coat than Gossamer, a stable blessing. Bathe with a sponge. Makes a delightful strengthening rub-down. Supplied by EASTERN DRUG CO., BOSTON

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Poetry.

SUCCESS.

Success? What is this thing Success, I pray?
Is it to stand forth in the glare of day
As one who wins great battles in the marts
Without regard to human souls and hearts?
Is it to strive in blindness of the right
Toward and to achieve some goal of might?
Wherefrom vast riches pour, huge stores of gold,
Into the coffers of the keen and bold?
Is it to win through trickery of phrase
And nice word polishments the poet's bays,
Or laurels of the Masters of Romance,
Not by endeavor, but by stylist's chance?
Is it to trample by sheer force of will
O'er plodders for the right, o'er halt and ill?
To snatch some high position in the State,
To principle and honor runagate?
Is it to climb from lowly place to high
Regardless of the rungs of misery?
Or is it his who lives his mortal span
In all things striving to become a man?
To live as God hath willed, to use his brawn
To help another to some joyous dawn?
To use his strength, his valor and his wit
So that, though riches small may come of it,
His fellows when his sands of life are run
Shall say of his achievement small "Well done!"
Here falls a man we never knew to shrink;
The world is brighter for his modest work!
Ah, give to me not that Success that comes
Mixed in with others' tears, with sounding
drums.
But better far the laurel that depends
Upon the love and honor of my friends.
Those bays the more securely o'er will rest
That come from those who understand us best;
The only ones are they that really bless
And form the measure of the true Success!
—John Kendrick Bangs, in N. Y. Sun.

AS THE TWIG IS BENT.

Beside the Susquehanna's placid flow,
Against a bluff, cut steep in ages past,
There grew a wee pine sapling, hugging close,
Well sheltered in his niche from stormy blast.
Content he grew for half a decade there,
As straight as any sapling in the vale,
Then bolder felt and thought himself so strong
That he no longer need beware the gale.
Then, trusting in his vigor and his strength,
He bent his tip and from the cliff inclined,
He boldly reached out where the breezes blew,
And proudly scorned the niche he left behind.
One summer, two and three, alone he grew
And wondered he had been content so long
To stay where freedom was a thing unknown.
"I need no help," said he, "for I am strong."
Full early flew the south bound birds that den,
The thick furred fox down deeper dug his den,
With winter came fierce storms that shook the pine
And wrenched his sturdy limbs away. And
when
The spring came back, with birds and buds and
warmth,
And floods that swelled the yellow waters high,
The pine again his needed tip bent back
And gladly found the shielding wall was nigh.
The sapling grew for years and still it grows
Where winds the stream through Penn's broad
sylvan land;
No sapling now, a tree with great bowed trunk,
As if it had been bent by Cyclop's hand.
In childhood I was sheltered by my Rock,
But self-reliant grew and yearned for air,
I tried the world, but left it tired of shock,
And grew to age; but oh, the bend was there.
—Charles Francis Potter, in the Watchman.

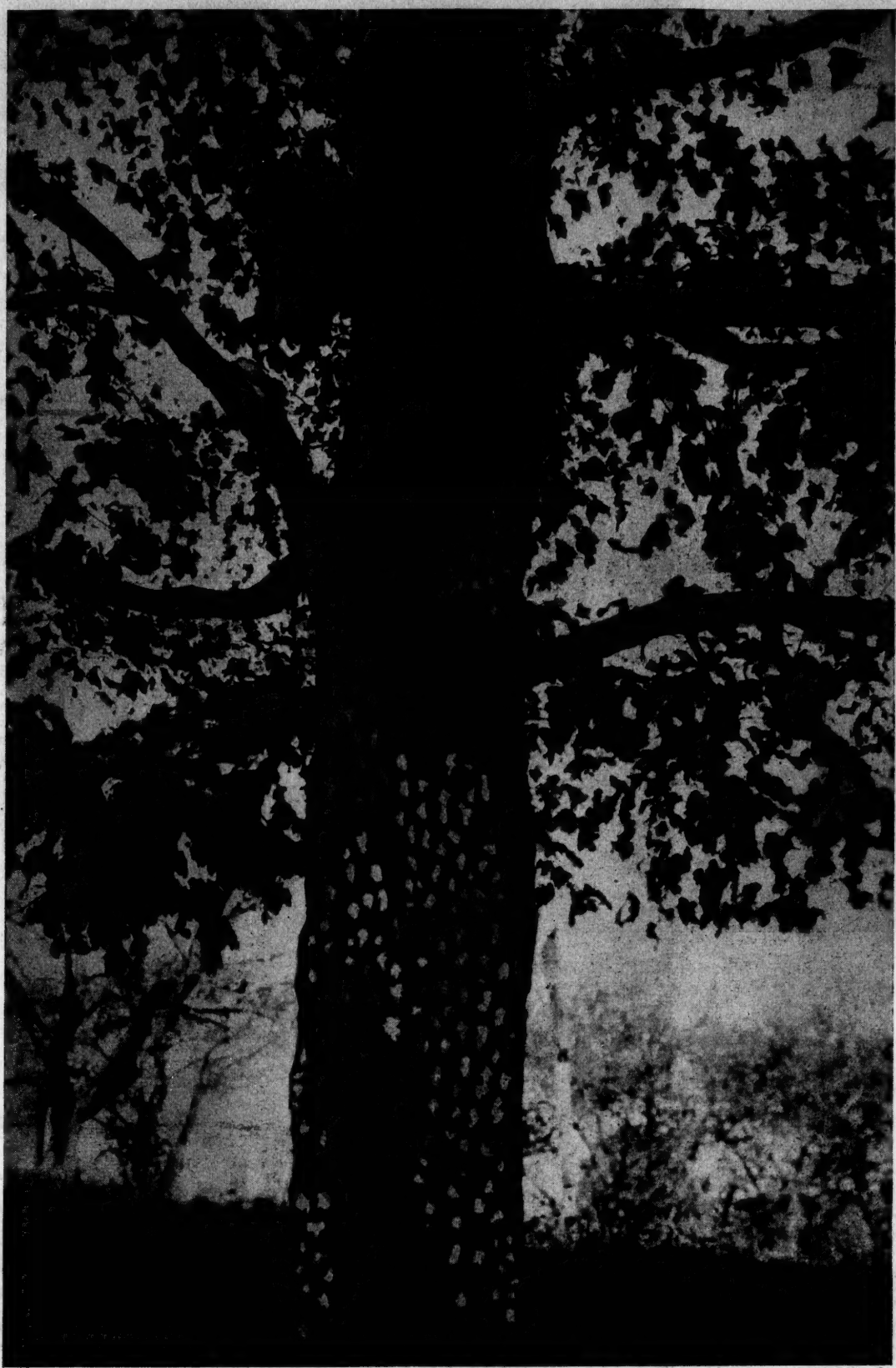
A COWBOY LOVE-SONG.

Oh, the last steer has been branded,
And the last beef has been shipped,
And I'm free to roam the prairie
That the roundup crew has stripped;
I am free to think of Susie—
Fainter than the stars above—
She's the waitress at the station
And she is my little dove.
Blissful-shooting Susie—
She's got us roped and tied;
Solier men or woody
Look on her with pride;
Susie's strong and able,
And not a one gets riled
When she waits on the table
And supplants the hash.
Oh, I sometimes think I'm loosed,
And just fit for herdin' sheep,
'Cause I only think of Susie
When I'm wak'ing or asleep;
I am wearin' Cupid's hobble,
And I'm tied to Love's stake-pin;
And when my heart was branded
The iron sunk deep in.
I take my saddle, Sundays—
The one with inlaid flaps—
And don my new sombrero
And my white Angora chaps;
Then I take a bronk for Susie
And she leaves her pots and pans,
And we figure out our homestead
And talk o'er our future plans.
—Denver Republican.

Miscellaneous.

Love at Second Sight.

"I'm about sick of this place," remarked Bobby Dawes discontentedly to the snow-clad mountains. "Tomorrow I shall pack up and go home."
The snow-clad mountains vouchsafed no reply and Bobby Dawes, with that feeling of satisfaction which the taking of any resolution, good or bad, engenders—rose to his feet and sauntered along the baking lake side walk of Lugano back to his hotel.
There was no mistaking Bobby Dawes' nationality as he strolled idly along under the trees. Tall, fair, well turned out, a gray suit, Panama hat, an irreproachable tie, he looked the possessor of many amatory adventures, although few had ever fallen to his lot. Amatory adventures require reciprocity, and Bobby Dawes had rarely, if ever, reciprocated.
Arriving at his hotel, he communicated his decision to the stout head porter. That astute individual declared himself "desolate," and expressed his disbelief that Bobby could have adequately inspected the numerous lions of the locality in so short a time.
He speedily ascertained that M'sieu had not yet visited the local mountain, San Salvatore.
"It was impossible," he said decidedly, with a shrug of his massive shoulders, "for M'sieu to leave without ascertaining the famous funicular." And, before Bobby could protest effectually, it had been arranged for him to postpone his departure by at least one day and to ascend the mountain by the first funicular in the morning.
Thus it was that an early hour on the ensuing day found Bobby Dawes reluctantly ensconced in a corner of an ascending car, thanking Heaven fervently that modern inventions had relieved the traveler from the painful labor of mountain climbing.
He admired the usual view, disliked the usual wind, bought and dispatched the usual postcards, imbibed the usual dock, and, honor being satisfied—honor is easily satisfied in that climate—prepared to descend.
A simple act enough, but fraught with the most momentous consequences to Bobby Dawes.
Suffering acutely from chattering tourists, he leaned well out from his corner seat watching the other car as it approached, wondering idly when they would meet and pass. It was some twenty yards off when his eye was caught by a white and frilly hat adorned with bunches of red cherries.
A rather smart hat, he thought lastly to himself. A decidedly smart hat. And, by George! as the car drew nearer—what a lovely girl!
He gazed at her spell-bound, moved to the very depths of his being.
"What glorious violet-blue-gray eyes!" he murmured to himself. "What a wealth of softly waving golden brown hair! What a perfectly indescribable air of indescribability!" He went on incoherently.
Their eyes met for a moment—to him it seemed an eternity; the car passed on and she was gone. And Bobby began to realize he had met his



INFESTED TREE IN BURLINGTON, MASS.

The branches and trunk are covered with thousands of the large egg clusters of the Gypsy moth.

only woman he could ever love on the car of a funicular railway, while he was going down and she was going up. Every moment cruel fate—represented by a wire rope—was dragging them further apart. Bobby fairly danced with anxiety on his seat, straining his eyes uselessly after the departing car. Immediately he reached the bottom, he purchased another ticket and sat in the car, possessed with a fury of impotence, until it commenced its downward journey.
At last it started Bobby Dawes, sitting in the front seat, his eyes fixed on the summit. He no longer speculated as to the strength of the wire rope; he was wrapped in a blissful reverie in which golden brown hair and violet-blue-gray eyes took a prominent part.
He was even oblivious of the approach of the other car about to pass them on its downward journey. Glancing carelessly at it his heart stopped beating. For there, appearing over the back of the car, was the cherry-trimmed hat.
"I shall have to reascend and redescend this wretched mountain before I can ever hope to see her again," he groaned to himself.

The steamer stopped—would she land? She did!
He followed her to her hotel, named appropriately enough "The Splendide." That afternoon he removed there, bag and baggage. On the way he congratulated himself there was now a chance—and, if he knew anything of himself, a very excellent chance—of making her acquaintance.
As he neared the hotel the omnibus belonging to it passed him laden with luggage; obviously on its way to the station. He glanced carelessly at its occupants. He caught a glimpse of violet-gray-blue eyes and softly waving golden brown hair and groaned aloud! He had missed her again!
In two minutes he had buttonholed the respectful hall porter and asked the destination of the ladies in the omnibus.
"Ze ladies mit de logosh?" inquired the functionary.
"No, with the violet—no—I mean, I dare say they have got luggage," stammered the distracted Bobby.

patriot and appealed for aid. He was in an awkward position; he felt that a few stern words in Italian was all that was required. Unfortunately he spoke no Italian.
Fixing the man with a glance of authority he surreptitiously pressed five lire into his willing hand and said in his most peremptory manner "Parlatemi di questo Tantiok!"
The man was dumfounded. He gaped and fell back while Bobby triumphantly swept off the cherry-trimmed hat and her mother into the interior of the cathedral.
After that the path of Bobby Dawes was strewn with roses. They stayed at the same hotel, they did Milan together, they lunched together, they dined together. He never spent a more glorious week in his life, and today regards Milan as the most charming and interesting city on the continent. If pressed, however, as to details, his recollections are hazy.

He suggested, for obvious reasons, they should spend their honeymoon at Lugano. And Betty seemed delighted at the idea. One evening, not



PINES KILLED BY GYPSY MOTHS.

The ravenous caterpillars strip all kinds of trees, and a single season's work usually kills the pines or other evergreens.

When he finally reached the bottom station thirty minutes later, naturally all trace of the cherry-trimmed hat was lost. He haunted the railway station, he haunted the steamer landing places. He had tea at every conference in the town—sometimes five in an afternoon—but all without avail.
Bobby Dawes became embittered, and laughed discordantly at the snow-clad mountains. "It is exactly what I have always expected," he remarked to Monte Rosa. "There is but one woman in the world I could ever have loved, and we have met—but on opposite ears of a funicular railway. I have lost her, perhaps forever, without even the satisfaction of knowing she is married to another!"
He was proceeding to enlarge on this theme, Monte Rosa being a sympathetic listener, when his eye fell idly on an approaching steamer, and there, immediately ahead of the funnel, was she! There were the violet-blue-gray eyes, there was the softly waving golden brown hair, there was the same indescribable air of indescribability, which he would have known among tea thousand—a million thousand!

"You go to catch de last train to Milano," was the reply.
A hasty study of Baedeker informed Bobby that the cathedral was the great attraction. "I might turn them up there with luck," he murmured hopefully, "if I caught the first train in the morning."
He spent the next two days in the cathedral, on the cathedral, in the Piazza in front of the cathedral.
On the third day, as he was leaving the soft gloom of the interior for the blinding sunlight of the Piazza, he suddenly saw in front of him something exquisitely striking yet exquisitely familiar. It was the cherry-trimmed hat, chaparroned by an older edition of herself—obviously her mother.
His first impulse was to clear the steps of the cathedral at a bound, but he fortunately restrained himself in time and descended decorously. As he drew near he could see that they were engaged in a most unequal altercation with a rascally Milanese cabman. The violet-gray-blue eyes met him—recognized him as a com-

long after their arrival, they were floating idly in a boat upon the lake listening to mandolins playing softly in the distance.
"Tomorrow we will go to San Salvatore," he said, looking down on her fondly. "You know why?"
"No, I don't," said Betty.
"Oh, yes, you do," he replied, "and, what is more, this time we'll go together in the same car," he added, playfully.
"I hope so, indeed," said Betty. "I've never been in a funicular before, and I know I shall be awfully frightened."
There was a pause. "You've never been up?" he said, slowly.
"Never," she said. "Mother was always so frightened of funiculars; besides, we only slept a night at Lugano, and went on."
A chill struck to Bobby's heart. "But the cherry-trimmed hat," he faltered.
"Fancy your remembering that old thing," she said. "I've always rather liked it, because, do you know, I was wearing it that day I first met you in Milan. Everybody was wearing cherry-trimmed hats just then."

"Were they?" he gasped.
"Yes; I bought mine as we passed through Paris. But, talking of San Salvatore," she continued, "why were you so surprised at my never having been up?"
Bobby Dawes put much hard thinking into the next few seconds.
"Shouldn't she tell her everything or not?" he asked himself. "Make a clean breast of it?" urged half of Bobby Dawes. "Don't; turn the conversation," insisted the other half. He must decide. Already she was looking at him in vague surprise. In his panic he endeavored to think of other topics of conversation, but in vain. The wash of the passing steamboat made his position a trifle insecure.
"Take care, dear," cried Betty.
"The very thing," he murmured, and carefully losing his balance he fell overboard, and in the subsequent confusion the subject of San Salvatore was happily forgotten.

To this day Bobby wonders whom he has married. He knows it is not the girl he fell in love with at Lugano—the girl of the funicular railway.
"Have I," he asks himself, "married the girl in the steamer? Have I married the girl in the hotel omnibus?" The only thing he knows for certain is that he married the girl he met and fell in love with in Milan. But has he married all the rest?"
He will never know!—Ada and Dudley James, in the Grand Magazine.

Fashion Notes.

*The milliner tells us that extreme effects in hats have gone out of fashion, but a survey of the earliest displays in the shop windows and in the shops is rather discouraging. The erst tailored hats are being shown, and they are for the most part startling creations. The very small hat is in the ascendency. Tiny little brims and generally abbreviated appearances are characteristic. The shapes are twisted in every possible manner. One of the favorite novelties is called the cornet, and is shaped something like the twisted cornucopias used sometimes to hold confectionery. Another new hat is described as a hood. It consists of a long scarf of silk, chiffon or other material twisted into a turban, and set on a foundation bandeau. The small French sailor, with low crown and the narrowest of brims, is another favorite. All of these shapes lend themselves well to decoration, and, aside from their eccentricity, are attractive. As far as coloring goes little improvement could be made. The successful milliners are veritable artists in color combinations.

*Apparently the red shades are going to be preferred to all others. One sees the American beauty rose shades everywhere. The flower itself is very prominent in spring models. Various shades of coral red are also seen. This color is the red for blonde women and for those pale women whom the strong reds seem to extinguish. It is the fashion to put half a dozen colors together on a hat, and one seldom sees a one-tone piece of millinery.

*Quite typical was a light yellow straw modified sailor shape, with a wreath of lilacs covering the crown. At the back of the crown were large American beauty roses which were allowed to fall from the brim over the hair. There were five or six of these roses, which were not combined with leaves at all. There was a high bandeau under the back brim, and this was covered with shirtings and bows of brown tulle.
*Brown tulle or malines appears on a great many bandeaus, probably because of the prevalence of brown hair, which the bandeaus are supposed to match. Many of the hats require elaborate collures for their best effect, and the brown bandeau build up and supplement the hair in exactly the right fashion.

*A hood hat, for example, was made of twisted and folded pale blue straw, very soft and pliable. This was set on a foundation brim of brown tulle, which was draped high on each side and very slightly in front. The maline was shirred in many frills and was very fluffy in character. Over one side of the crown and foundation brim were arranged most roses, and a long blue ostrich plume extended from the front to the back of the hat, cavalier fashion.

*The simpler tailored hats for first spring wear are also multicolored. A Panama model, a sort of dish shape with turned-up brims, was adorned with black velvet and had a bandeau in ostrich plume extending from the front of shaded chameleon ribbon, of which the foundation was corn color. Two long wings, pale blue in color, were arranged on the sides of the turned up brim.

*Naturally, plaid ribbon and shaded silks are popular as hat trimmings. A startling little street hat of navy blue lace straw was, on analysis, a sailor shape with a rolling brim. It was studded with black velvet and had a bandeau in ostrich plume extending from the front of shaded chameleon ribbon, of which the foundation was corn color. Two long wings, pale blue in color, were arranged on the sides of the turned up brim.

*Excepting ligerite hats, we are told that the white hat is again taboo. It is so by its title and starts. Sometimes the white hat is the only smart thing one can wear; at all other times it is a thing of abhorrence. Just now it is considered provincial and out of all taste.

*On the other hand, the all white gown is to be very much the thing. Never have so many lovely white muslins and linen gowns been shown as at present. Sheer, plain white, without dots and figures, is the preferred material and handkerchief linen is the favorite above all others.
*Ingenuity has been about exhausted in the decoration of these simply built, but highly ornamental gowns. The princess gown fitted in at the waist line with lace insertions are redeemed from monotony by the variety of design it has been possible to develop.
—N. Y. Evening Post.

There is no known stimulant to crop growth. Men are made drunk, but crops never. There is no intoxicant of a crop as liquor intoxicates men. Milk is not a stimulant, but it is the food of all young animals, easily and quickly digested. Properly made fertilizers are not stimulants, but are foods which are easily and quickly assimilated by young, growing crops. The Stockbridge Manures nourish without stimulating. They feed the crop from start to finish—the young plant and the maturing crop—and hence produce phenomenal results without exhausting the soil. They are soluble, active and sure. They are no experiment. They were introduced thirty years ago by Professor Stockbridge and still stand as crop producers and soil improvers.

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The Horse.

A Tribute to the Percheron.

Almost everything that has been written about the horse may be reduced pretty much to complaining that there does not exist a breed which unites, in an elevated degree, high moral to physical qualities; modestly seeking and teaching the means of containing such a breed.

It is reasonable that such statements should surprise us, here in the heart of France, where, for a long time, a race of horses has flourished which may be said to fill the requirements proposed in every way. The proof of this statement is easy; a hasty sketch of the principal characters of the breed suffices to furnish it:

To no ordinary strength, to vigor which does not degenerate and to a conformation which does not exclude elegance, it joins docility, mildness, patience, honesty, great kindness, excellent health and a hardy, elastic temperament. Its movements are quick, spirited and light. It exhibits great endurance, both when hard worked and when forced to maintain for a long time any of its natural gait, and it possesses the inestimable quality of moving fast with heavy loads. It is particularly valuable for its precocity and produces by its work, as a two year old, more than the cost of his feed and keep. Indeed, it loves and shows a real aptness of labor, which is the lot of all. It knows neither the whims of bad humor nor nervous excitement. It bears, for man, the companion of its labor, an intimate confidence and expresses to him familiarity, the fruit of an education for many generations in the midst of his family. Women and children, from whose hands it is fed, can approach it without fear. In a word, if I may speak thus, it is an honorable race. It is exempt (a cause for everlasting jealousy among breeders of other races) always exempt from the hereditary bony defects of the hook, and there is no spavin, jardon, bone spavin, periodical inflammation and other dreaded infirmities are not known even by name.

C. D. HAYS.

Fairly Firm Tone in Butter Market.

Notwithstanding some weakness in prices quoted for various Western markets, the result of moderate increase in supply, the Boston market holds about steady at last week's quotations. Some dealers say there is a little better demand especially for the better grades, and on the whole the situation can be said to have only held its own. It is more than can be said in New York, Chicago and Elgin markets. Most of the fresh stock is below choice or extra, and for these grades the market is dull chiefly because of competition with the lower grades of storage. The storage stock is selling hard this year, neither the domestic trade nor the foreign carrying for it except at a little below present quotations, hence dealers find it necessary to force sales by cutting under present quoted prices. The same may be said of factory and imitation butters which are not much in demand. Storage butter is going out steadily for the better grades and these are in slight demand, although with signs of weakening prices. There is still a good deal of storage butter of low grade which does not seem to be selling very readily. It is inferior to the fresh make, and the supply of the latter is constantly increasing and also tending to improve in quality as the season advances. Exporters do not care much for cheap storage butter for the reason that foreign markets can hardly dispose of it unless it can be bought here as low as 16 or 17 cents, which is a little lower than holders are as yet willing to accept. Butter in boxes and print form sells at about the usual premium over tub and is in moderate demand.

At New York there is no quotable change in the position of the local market. The demand for fancy fresh creamery is moderate, but about sufficient to absorb the rather light supplies of such, but buyers are critical in their examination of quality and just as soon as the goods are not up to the requirements of the best trade the selling value falls rapidly. Fancy stock is moving at 27 to 27 1/2 cents, and it is difficult to do business in the next grade much above 25 cents, and from that downward about as quoted. There is a pretty good demand for fancy storage creamery, with rather a firm holding; a car of high-grade stock sold at a little better than 21 cents and there is some jobbing business at 21 1/2 to 22 cents. Large buyers are holding 21 cents quite freely. Stock has been called over to such an extent that there is but a small quantity of really fancy remaining in first hands. Less particular buyers find a pretty good grade at about 20 to 20 1/2 cents, but leaving the inside factor there is no outlet to speak of above 19 1/2 to 17 cents. Renowned butter remains quiet, but fancy goods are fairly steady.

The New York cheese market shows little if any change in the general features. The late free export movement has relieved the market of considerable surplus of large full cream cheese, and while there are probably a few more available exporters could not possibly duplicate their purchases of last week. We do not hear of much new business. The home trade demand keeps up in a very satisfactory manner, and with stocks showing a marked reduction the future is pretty well assured. The season, however, is generally late and holders seem generally disposed to meet the demand on the basis of prices ruling for some time past and not inclined to crowd values any higher, though the feeling is general that all the old cheese will be wanted before new can be produced in sufficient quantity or quality attractive enough to take its place. Choice full made light skins are in moderate supply and wanted at firm prices. Desirable part skins from 8 to 10 cents have a fair export inquiry, but winter made skins are irregular in quality and value.

Latest cable advices to George A. Cochran from the principal markets of Great Britain give butter markets as steady for continental and colonial butters, and prices are fairly sustained. American butter of all descriptions is almost unsaleable. Stocks are accumulating, and the quantity offered over the cable has completely demoralized matters. Occasionally some very nice creamery will sell around about 18 to 19 cents. Ladies are nominally 17 to 18 cents. Renowned is unquestionable. Finest grades: Danish 24 to 25 cents, New Zealand 23 to 24 cents, Australian and Argentine 21 1/2 to 22 cents, Russian 22 cents. Cheese markets are very firm and buyers are forced to pay advanced prices. Stocks are small and moderate and firmly held. Finest American and Canadian 12 1/2 to 14 cents.

Big Demand for Low-Price Eggs.
The egg demand is no doubt enormous the country over. Low prices coming at the Lenten season stimulate consumption immensely, and the general prosperity enables the public to make up for the past years of

scarcity at this season. Not only is the surplus storage stock going off at a rapid rate, but the immense arrivals of fresh-laid eggs are also being taken care of. Of course prices, especially of storage stock, are low, but the fact that they can be sold at all shows how enormous the demand is when the price is made tempting. Probably some of the surplus fresh eggs during the month will go into storage, and, in fact, some have already been put away at a price around 15 cents in New York city, but the real storage season does not begin until about the first of the month.

The feeling among egg storage men is quite different from that prevailing last year at this time. There is very little enthusiasm, and no one seems to talk of going into operations on a large scale. They say that eggs suitable for storage will have to sell as low as 14 cents at least, or nobody will touch them. With such a feeling prevailing among dealers, the outlook is really better than last year at this time when everybody was over enthusiastic, and the business was badly overdone, even had the season been favorable for the sale of storage eggs. Storage business is always more or less of a speculation since its success depends so much on the cold weather, which would check the supply of fresh eggs. But with the speculators poor in pocket and scant in courage the pack is likely to be much smaller this year, and hence the outlook should be really for a safer business if an average winter season follows. It looks as if fresh eggs would be rather cheap all the spring, but there is no reason to suppose such conditions would necessarily last very long. Producers who find themselves with a large daily production of eggs in April and May, and no very good market, might safely put up some of the surplus in water glass or lime water, putting away the eggs the same day laid if possible. This will insure a supply of very nice eggs next winter, and at least enough for liberal home use should be laid aside in this way.

The storage stock seems to have been reduced pretty low. It is giving very little trouble in Boston attention being mainly devoted to fresh stock. In New York it is thought about twenty thousand cases remain, but this could be quickly closed out a little below present figures, and no longer exist as a threatening factor in the market. From now on the egg situation will be controlled by supply and demand of fresh stock.

Cranberries A Costly Luxury.

Cranberries at \$28 a barrel in Chicago are certainly a startling item to those who in former years have been glad to get \$5 during the shipping season. Last year at this time \$28 would have bought about eight barrels of fairly good fruit. Of course the season has not been very favorable for keeping this year and there is very little which has remained so late as the present time, but all through the market season the price has certainly been very satisfactory. Unfortunately the greater part of the profit has been made by the middleman who in many cases has more than doubled his money. The situation is certainly remarkable. It is no doubt owing to a combination of the short crop in cranberries and also in apples, to the good export demand for fruit and to the generally prosperous times, which enable consumers to pay what they please for a desirable and scarce article. The combination of these factors has brought about a truly record-breaking state of affairs in the cranberry market.

Eggs Active in Boston and New York.

The egg supply at Boston continues to increase, but demand is exceedingly good and the market reasonably steady. Western eggs sell around 16 cents, and New England stock for the most part two cents above Western, with fancy nearby hen eggs four to five cents above Western. There is some New England stock, however, which sells as low as the average run of Western when the weather is fairly cool. Western stock, which has been collected with care and shipped promptly, arrives in excellent condition. Southern stock shows the effect of the advancing season, and quotes one to two cents below Western. Refrigerator eggs bring about 19 cents by the case.

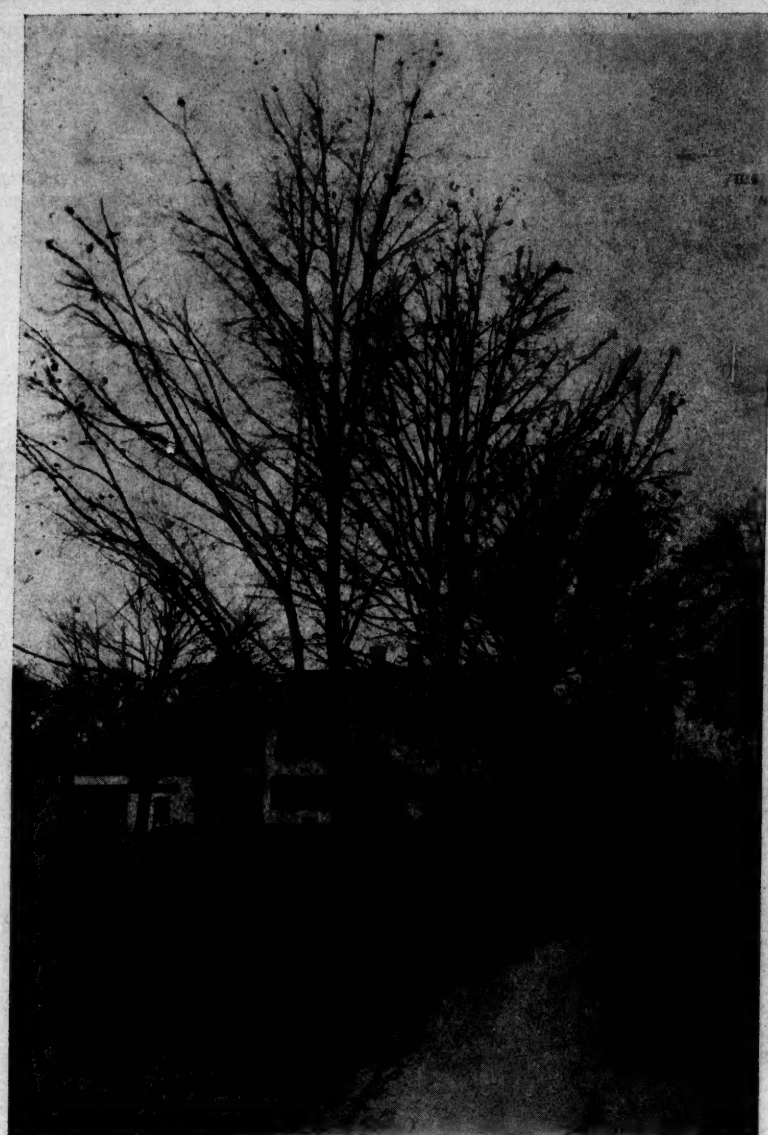
The arrivals at New York are showing about as much increase as was generally expected and the advices indicate fair supplies in transit. The market, however, is showing a steady tone on spot sales, although some goods have been offered to arrive at a little lower price than now current. Trading in cold storage stock at the close is not very active, but there is a fair trade in progress and prime goods are held about steady at 14 1/2 cents, occasional lots of closely selected bringing a slight premium. There is a pretty good demand for under grades at proportionate prices, say from 12 to 14 cents. Duck eggs are in light supply and firmer. Refrigerator eggs are having some inquiry, but they are no longer a factor of much importance in the market.

Ducks' Eggs Selling Well.

The trade in ducks' eggs becomes of some importance at the opening of the Lenten season, and at the time of year when the class of food is in greatest general demand. The early supply comes from the eastern shore of Maryland, shipping largely via Baltimore. The duck eggs come packed in crates, about thirty dozen to a case, but are larger than the ordinary egg crates, and weigh seventy-five pounds when packed. Flocks of ducks are fully as common along Chesapeake Bay as on Cape Cod, the facilities for the business being very much alike, plenty of sea food and marshes where the ducks feed and thrive without much expense. The ducks are expected to lay about a hundred eggs in a season, beginning in February. Farmers receive early in the season about 25 cents per dozen, although the price goes lower after Easter. The eggs are shipped principally to New York city, but a good many come to Boston early in the season. Later the larger part of the Boston market is supplied from Cape Cod section and elsewhere. The duck eggs have thin shells and do not keep very long, hence need to be collected and brought to the consumer without any needless delay.

Steady, Strong Apple Markets.

The apple market the country over continues to distinguish itself as one of the steadiest and strongest on record. At no time during the season has there been anything like pronounced weakness. A little dullness from time to time has scarcely affected prices, and the general tendency has been quite steadily upward from harvest season to the present time. During the past week apples have been selling in New York at about \$5 for Baldwins and as high as \$6 for Greenings and Spitzenburgs. No doubt the speculative buyers have made a great deal of money in apples this year, fully offsetting the rather unfavorable



MAPLE SHADE TREES IN WOBURN MASS.

Swarming with at least 100,000 young caterpillars in the 423 nests shown in the picture

experience of the preceding season. It is likely that apples bought at harvest time in large quantities for storage have just about doubled in value and there is no difficulty in selling them at prevailing prices, buyers not seeming disposed to question the grade very severely or to require repacking. They are glad to get fruit any way and there seems to be little talk or haggling over the market price.

Even the No. 2 apples which were hardly salable a year ago now bring excellent prices. A lot of Greenings which were strictly No. 2 fruit were lately brought out of storage and sold in New York city as high as \$5, while fancy fruit of the same variety brought as high as \$7. Of course this is the end of the Greening season, but the prices are remarkable, nevertheless. Common Baldwins and Ben Davis out of farm cellars sold readily in New York at \$5 for fruit classed as No. 1. It must be remembered, too, that this fruit is graded very closely. Fruit that last year would have been shipped in bulk or sent to evaporators are this year barreled and classed as No. 2, while some of the No. 1 stock could hardly have passed in that grade when fruit was more plenty.

No fault can be found with the local apple market, which has the unusual combination of high prices and good demand. Anything choice is taken care of, and fancy lots on exhibition at the markets are quickly surrounded by buyers. Such lots sell above anything quoted in our market list, but hardly give a fair idea of the general market. For instance, there was a lot of Colorado apples selling Thursday at \$2.50 per box. But there is hardly anything in native apples which will bring such figures. These Colorado apples are as uniform in size as the most carefully graded oranges, and also of even color and bright red, and have the characteristic appearance of the far West fruit. They are not so good as some of the native fruit, but on account of their careful grading and scientific packing they suit the market taste. Most of this Western fruit is sent out by growers' associations which are able to put up large quantities of uniform quality. Cranberries continue scarce and high, almost anything being paid for good fruit; \$25 is not too high to quote, but there is hardly enough on the market to establish values.

Exports keep up wonderfully considering the high prices of the fruit, which it would seem would almost check the foreign outlook. The total shipments are over two million barrels for the season, and the fruit is still going out at the rate of fifteen to twenty thousand barrels every week. Portland is just now quite a point of export, shipping out more barrels than Boston or New York, more in fact last week than Boston and New York combined. The reason is that the longer keeping apples are up North, while farther South most of the fruit was shipped out some time ago. A good many Canadian apples are being shipped through Portland as well as St. John and Halifax. Canadian growers are shipping Russets the past fortnight and report net returns at \$4 to \$5. Canadian growers are grumbling somewhat over the new German tariff which amounts to about \$1.00 per barrel since the first of this month, while American shippers still have the benefit of the old tariff, which is only 75 cents.

The total apple shipments from all ports for the week ending March 10 were 15,336 barrels, including 3330 barrels from Boston, 3761 barrels from New York, 4198 barrels from Portland, Me., 6890 barrels from Halifax, N. S., and 807 barrels from St. John, N. B. The total shipments included 6031 barrels to Liverpool, 6220 barrels to London, 1734 barrels to Glasgow, and 442 barrels to various ports. The total shipments for the season thus far have been 3,112,797 barrels, including 437,139 barrels from Boston, 568,092 barrels from New York, 324,613 barrels from Portland, Me., 535,007 barrels from Montreal, 307,969 barrels from Halifax, N. S., and 19,338 barrels from St. John, N. B. The total shipments for the same time last year were 3,167,380 barrels, against 3,304,006 barrels in 1904.

Vegetable Trade Well Sustained.

The vegetable market shows no special tendency quite well sustained on nearly all classes. Onions continue the weak feature, being almost unsaleable for ordinary stock, of which there is a large proportion. Choice native stock continues to bring 40 to 50 cents, but there is plenty of stock in bags of two bushels each, for which holders are glad to get 30 cents. Cabbages were

formerly another weak spot, but have been doing better of late and hold well at the advance. The freezing weather in parts of the South and the cool weather up this way help both to reduce the competition and increase consuming demand. Hothouse vegetables quote about the same as last week, no changes of consequence being noted, but subarctic has recovered a little from the recent decline, and brings 7 cents for choice hothouse grown. Celler grown usually quotes about one cent below hothouse, being of a punky quality and pale color, less acceptable to the trade. Field beans are dull, both supply and demand being light, but the weak tendency in prices continues partly in sympathy with the grain markets. Buyers are unwilling to pay more than \$1.50 for choice hand-picked pea beans.

At New York domestic potatoes are in liberal supply and weak with foreign selling slowly and prices for all grades favor buyers. Sweet potatoes are plenty and barely steady. Domestic onions are in liberal supply, generally of unattractive quality and dragging, and all figures. Asparagus is in free supply and selling well at steady prices; very little Charleston received. Choice new beets and carrots sell fairly, but many show poor quality and range low. Old carrots weaker. Old cabbages weak; new in good demand and best marks bringing \$2 to \$2.25, but some stock arriving in very poor condition. Cauliflowers are in good demand at steady prices. Chicory and escarol easier. Eggplants would command more than quoted if fancy. Kale and spinach are in liberal supply and lower. Florida lettuce is quite plenty and selling from \$3.50 down; not much North Carolina arriving. Okra and peppers dull and weak. Peas are in light supply, and fancy would exceed quotations. String beans are selling mainly from \$6 down. Tomatoes show wide range in quality and value. Turnips steady. Watercress quite plenty and weak.

Maple Sugar Still Scarce.

A little maple sugar continues to arrive, but is still in scanty supply. The behavior of the interior market indicates a little lower prices but Boston sales hold at about 16 cents.

Poultry Holds Its Own.

Poultry of all classes holds its own as a rule. Fowls continue in excellent demand, bringing 13 to 16 cents for Northern stock and 12 to 14 cents for Western. Low prices for eggs would, of course, tend to encourage the marketing of these, but as yet few are coming to market the price holds firm. Ducks are in very light supply, this being the season when they are most profitable as laying stock, and few are marketed of desirable quality. Turkeys are also in light supply and few that come are of desirable grade. Western chickens are also for the most part of low quality. Little choice stock of any kind is coming except Northern chickens, fowls and broilers. All these hold prices last quoted. Capons are in light supply and not much wanted. The market for these is poor this year, largely owing to so many being sent that were poorly grown and poorly finished. Live poultry in light supply and prices hold steady.

At New York receipts of fresh poultry are light and invoices moderate, especially of Western stock, which has caused a little stronger feeling, and prices advanced one-half a cent on most all grades, though the demand is still slow and unsatisfactory. Very little desirable fresh-killed poultry other than fowls is arriving. Fresh turkeys are scarce and the few coming are unsatisfactory and of irregular value. The few fresh chickens arriving show undesirable quality and sell slowly. Western fresh capons are in light supply and are held at a trifle steadier, but demand is limited. Nearby poultry and quails nominally unchanged. Frozen poultry in liberal supply and urging for sale at irregular prices.

Produce Notes.

The potato market certainly shows no improvement. Supplies continue to accumulate both in New York and in Boston, and prices are dragging. Some potatoes, both domestic and foreign, were injured by frost during the cold snap, and these damaged potatoes do not improve the situation. Quite a number of foreign potatoes were frozen on the docks. This unfortunate addition to the various other troubles of the importer, will not tend to add to their enthusiasm and overloading our markets for another season. Had these gentlemen kept out of the potato market the American

potatoes would have sold at a fairly satisfactory price to growers, but so many English, Belgian and German potatoes on the market have proved a constant weight, dragging down the price and preventing any rise. The exporters, no doubt, lost money on a good share of their transactions, but that does not improve the results any as experienced by American shippers. Holders of Maine potatoes seem to have given up hope of high prices and are sending forward the rest of their stock as fast as convenient. In fact, if shipments continue at the present rate it is doubtful whether even present prices will be maintained. There are certainly a great many potatoes, both in Maine and in New York and in parts of the Lake region. It is said there are more potatoes in Michigan than at this season last year. Southern potatoes and Bermudas are becoming rather more plenty.

The most favorable report received lately of the potato situation is from a large Wisconsin dealer who claims that most of the surplus stock has been shipped out of the State, and that the future supply is strictly limited. He believes this condition is general, and that potato prices have reached bottom. This theory seems too good to believe. Nothing would please the dealers more than to see the market gradually rise until it reaches a good figure. They do not like a rapidly fluctuating market, but steady improvement would be welcome to all concerned. Whatever may be true of Wisconsin, all accounts indicate there are plenty of potatoes in Michigan, to say nothing of Ohio, New York, Maine, and other nearer shipping sections, and the fact remains that this surplus must be marketed within a comparatively short time. Nothing can help the situation more than a month of cool weather, which would favor a gradual, steady shipment and a good buying demand. On the other hand, warm weather would, of course, injure the keeping qualities, and force a more hasty market, and work injury to the outlook in all directions.

A large acreage of strawberries is reported in the Florida sections devoted to this fruit and the season has been favorable so far. The early bloom was not killed by frost, and shipments began early and are likely to continue longer than usual. The favorite variety in that State is the Klondike, which is a large sized, good colored, good shipping sort. Growers have been getting good returns and are feeling much encouraged.

The onion storage people are grumbling

almost as hard as the holders of storage eggs. Both classes have lost considerable money, some of the onions being a total loss on account of the poor keeping conditions and a dull demand for anything but good stock.

A regular butter counterfitting outfit was unearthed at Detroit, Mich., suggesting the secrecy and completeness of the money outfitting plant. There was quite a line of machinery stored in a secret room carefully guarded from discovery.

The last half of March is expected to be a very busy season among Cuban vegetable growers. Early rains injured the first plantings, but, as in Florida, the later plantings are promising very well, and a heavy shipping movement is likely to begin within a week or two. The pineapple crop is reported unusually large and fine, and this fruit should be plenty and reasonable in price.

After a depressing winter the cabbage market stands in quite a blaze of glory. Native stock selling higher with considerable enthusiasm on the part of shippers. This week the cabbage market seems a little weaker again, apparently on account of the increase of shipments from the South. The cause of the sudden spurt of strength was the injury to the cabbage crop in the South by the February freeze, and it is to be hoped that the remaining stock of Northern cabbages can be worked off at fair prices.

Reports from the Michigan peach section indicate quite a shrinkage an account of the uneven temperatures of the past winter, but fruit buds do not seem to have been killed, and the indications are that if nothing further happens to reduce the crop there will still be a fair yield.

A peach tree at Monticello, Fla., produced over six hundred pounds of nuts last year and has averaged five hundred pounds for the past three years, being twenty years old. The peaches sold at 12 cents per pound and the proceeds for the season were over \$70. Such a tree on a fair basis valuation would be worth several hundred dollars.

The recent freeze in Florida, although not severe, did considerable damage to the strawberry crop, destroying on some sections about one-third of the crop. Potatoes were also injured in the Hastings district, which is the leading one for that crop. The frost, together with successive rains, will no doubt considerably reduce the yield, but from one hundred thousand to 125,000 barrels are still to be expected.

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